Merrimac

1976

Town Report

Report of the

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS

1976

MERRIMAC'S CENTENNIAL
AND THE
AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL YEAR

A summary of recommendations to be presented at the
Annual Town Meeting in Red Oak School

8:00 P.M. May 3, 1976

What We Can Afford Is As Important As What We Need!

Please Bring This Report With You

Budget Breakdown
by
Category

63.41 Schools
31.16 Local
26.74 Pentucket
5.51 Whittier

7.77% Debt & Interest
7.01% Protection
5.34% Highway
3.94% Unclassified
2.92% General Gov't
2.51% Water Dept.
2.67% Pensions
1.19% Library
1.19% Health & Dump
.70% Cemeteries
.62% Street Lights
.41% Veterans Ben.
.32% Recreation

RECAP
of
Reserve Fund

Appropriation	$10,000.00
Transferred to:	
Bd. of Registrars-Census	1,045.50
Truck Replacements	3,436.00
Selectmen's Secretary	805.00
Tax Collector Expense	600.00
Snow and Washouts	2,500.00
Ambulance Service	350.00
Light in Town Bldgs.	481.79
Street Lighting	127.38
Total to April 1, 1976	$ 9,345.67

To the CITIZENS OF MERRIMAC: April 1, 1976

After hundreds of phone calls, dozens of interviews with department heads and individuals seeking favorable recommendations on budgets for which they were responsible, and over 40 meetings of the Finance Committee, we respectfully submit the following budget recommendations for the fiscal year July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977 to the voters of Merrimac.

As you know, in December the Finance Committee voted to hold the line to last year's funding levels for all departments and committees. Although we were not able to accomplish this goal in all instances, in the vast majority of small budgets (those under $20,000), and in all but three large budgets - The Pentucket and Merrimac Schools and Communications - we were successful. In a number of cases also, this Committee has recommended reductions below last year's level of funding.

Please note that our recommendations provide for maximum salary increases of 4.5% for full time Town employees, with the exception of Police Officers who under contract receive a 10% increase in salary per year, in installments of 5% every six months; and Merrimac teachers, most of whom "could" receive increases in salary of between 3.5% to 8.2%, counting regular step increments, with our recommended $6,121 reduction in new money.

The School Committee has recommended that new money amounting to $17,598 be included in its budget in order to cover a possible 4.6% increase in teachers salaries now being negotiated, in addition to monies for yearly increment increases which amount to a 3.5% to 5.2% salary increase for most teachers. The Fin Com is recommending an amount to provide for a possible 3% salary increase over and above 3.5% to 5.2% regular increments which should be more than enough to cover whatever amounts are agreed to in current negotiations. We felt also that a reduction in the new money allotment would help persuade teachers and the School Committee that Merrimac can no longer afford the 7 - 12% new money and increment salary increase all local teachers received this past year.

Important also to note is the fact that Merrimac's Police budget, excluding Communications, and even with the Fin Com's recommended reduction is still the highest of any Town of 5,000 or less population in this area. That budget, not including Communications, had increased from 1972 to this year 1975-76 by 69%. The Finance Committee's modest recommended reduction of $9,665 below the Department's request total will still provide funding for five full-time Officers, and 56 hours of coverage per week by part-time Special Officers.

In making decisions this year at Town Meeting, taxpayers should take the following information into account: 1. Merrimac has the 3rd highest tax rate, adjusted to full-value by the Massachusetts Tax Commission, of the 150 Towns in Massachusetts with populations of 5,000 of less, and the principle reason for this, according to

Municipal Financial Data, 1976 published by the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, appears to be too much spending in relation to the value of property in Merrimac. 2. At the same time, Merrimac has the lowest per capita income for Towns of comparable size in this area, except for Salisbury (see Section 566 of Current Population Report, June 1975, U.S. Dept of Commerce). 3. Unemployment in this area is currently running over 12%. 4. A new sewerage treatment facility, whether conventional or unconventional, will require increased taxes in the near future. 5. Population in Merrimac has actually shown a slight decline in the last five years from 4,242 to 4,202 in 1975 (see 1970 U.S. Census and 1975 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Census) - thus many large budget increases in recent years are very difficult to justify. 6. All things being equal, the higher the property tax on a home, the lower the resale value of that home generally will be. 7. Cherry Sheet re-imbursements to the Town this year were down approximately $206,000 from last year's Cherry Sheet figures. While this reduction will be partially offset by a large amount of "free cash" which can be used to reduce the tax rate, it is certain that even if appropriations are held to the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee, the tax rate per $1,000 valuation will increase. 8. Every $15,600 in appropriations you approve at Town Meeting will translate into $1.00 on your tax rate per $1,000 valuation. If your property is now valued at $15,000, this will mean $15.00 in taxes for you for every $15,600 appropriated by the Town Meeting.

From the start, our Committee has completely rejected the notion that taxpayers have no control over what they pay in local taxes. Citizens can control the destiny of their government and what it does, if they only make up their minds to investigate, think about, and then act in their own self interest.

Every department head and official in Merrimac can easily justify more financial support for their departments than we are recommending. At this point in time, however, the important question is no longer what do we need, or what more could we use. The important question is what can you as a property owner now afford to pay in additional property taxes.

It's now up to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry Bowen, Chairman
Harry A. Daniels
John E. Dunn
James A. Hume
James S. Smith
Deborah C. Willman
Robert N. Zacharis
Judith T. Clark, Secty.

Item #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 to 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
			GENERAL GOVERNMENT 2.92% of Total		
			Moderator		
1	12.00	12.00	Salary	$ 12.00	$ 12.00
			Finance Committee		
2	750.00	1,000.00	Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00
			Selectmen		
3	1,800.00	2,100.00	Salaries	2,100.00	2,100.00
4	3,900.00	4,955.00	Secretary	6,086.00	6,086.00
5	1,000.00	1,475.00	Expenses	1,455.00	1,455.00
				9,641.00	9,641.00
			Accountant		
6	8,840.00	9,360.00	Salary	6,249.10	6,249.00
7	100.00	100.00	Expenses	200.00	200.00
				6,449.10	6,449.00
			Treasurer		
8	1,200.00	1,200.00	Salary	1,200.00	1,200.00
9	400.00	600.00	Clerk	600.00	600.00
10	3,100.00	3,100.00	Expenses	3,600.00	3,600.00
				5,400.00	5,400.00
			Tax Collector		
11	2,500.00	2,500.00	Salary	2,500.00	2,500.00
12	700.00	900.00	Clerk	900.00	900.00
13	3,400.00	2,575.00	Expenses	3,175.00	3,175.00
				6,575.00	6,575.00
			Assessors		
14	3,000.00	3,000.00	Salary	3,000.00	3,000.00
15	4,280.00	4,280.00	Clerk	6,864.00	6,864.00
16	3,225.00	3,575.00	Expenses	3,010.00	3,010.00
		3,000.00	Equalization	(See Special Art.#14	
				12,874.00	12,874.00
			Legal Suits & Expense		
17	1,980.00	1,980.00	Salary	1,980.00	1,980.00
18	4,500.00	4,500.00	Expenses	4,500.00	4,500.00
				6,480.00	6,480.00
			Town Clerk		
19	1,000.00	1,000.00	Salary	1,000.00	1,000.00
20	510.00	610.00	Expenses	910.00	910.00
				1,910.00	1,910.00
			Registrars		
21	300.00	450.00	Salaries	500.00	500.00
22	362.00	150.00	Expenses	450.00	450.00
23	400.00	400.00	Census Taker Salary	400.00	400.00
				1,350.00	1,350.00

em #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 to 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
			Election Officers		
24	835.00	796.00	Wages	$ 1,103.00	$ 1,103.00
25	71.00	54.00	Expenses	105.00	105.00
				1,208.00	1,208.00
			Planning Board		
26	800.00	800.00	Expenses	800.00	800.00
			Appeals Board		
27	100.00	100.00	Clerk	000.00	000.00
28	300.00	300.00	Expenses	400.00	400.00
				400.00	400.00
			Bonding of Town Officers		
29	651.00	841.00		864.00	864.00
			Town Hall		
30	840.00	900.00	Janitor Salary	900.00	900.00
31	15,550.00	2,900.00	Maint. Expense	3,200.00	3,200.00
32		2,000.00	Heating	1,909.00	1,909.00
				6,009.00	6,009.00
			Municipal Building		
33			Maint. Expense	1,000.00	500.00
34		5,000.00	Heating	5,217.00	5,217.00
				6,217.00	5,717.00
	$66,406.00	$66,513.00	TOTAL GEN. GOVERNMENT	$67,189.10	$66,689.00
			PROTECTION 7.01% of Total		
			Police		
35	14,218.36	15,355.99	Chief - Salary	16,928.76	16,928.76
36	9,925.76	11,260.52	Sergeant	12,414.42	12,414.42
37	37,917.00	40,203.80	Patrolmen	44,322.52	33,857.52
38	5,200.00	600.00	Clerk	600.00	600.00
39			Night Premium	836.00	836.00
40			Paid Holidays	3,040.19	3,040.19
41			Court Time	4,207.00	4,207.00
42	6,173.48	13,994.33	Overtime	2,109.00	2,109.00
43	14,150.00	13,255.00	Expenses	11,802.80	11,802.80
44	10,000.00	10,800.00	Specials	10,848.00	11,648.00
45	2,720.00	3,360.00	Crossing Guards	3,360.00	3,360.00
46	2,500.00	6,282.80	Commun.-Dispatchers	23,620.00	22,620.00
47		2,700.00	Commun. Expenses	4,100.00	4,100.00
	$102,804.60	$117,812.44	TOTAL POLICE & COMMUN.	$138,188.69	$127,523.69
			Fire		
48	8,100.00	9,300.00	Wages - Firemen	9,300.00	9,300.00
49	12,350.00	8,119.00	Expenses	9,286.48	9,286.00
50	1,300.00	1,050.00	Salaries-Engineers	1,050.00	1,050.00
51	200.00	200.00	Forest Fire Wardens	200.00	200.00
52	17,000.00	000.00	Other	000.00	000.00
	$38,950.00	$18,669.00	Total Fire	$19,836.48	$19,836.00

Item #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 60 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
			Civil Defense		
53	250.00	0.00	Expenses	350.00	350.00
			Fire Alarm Inspector		
54	0.00	0.00	Expenses	150.00	150.00
			Gas Inspector		
55	378.00	417.00	Salary	416.00	416.00
56	135.00	174.00	Expenses	174.00	174.00
				590.00	590.00
			Wiring Inspector		
57	350.00	384.00	Salary	500.00	440.00
58	50.00	75.00	Expenses	79.00	79.00
				579.00	519.00
			Building Inspector		
59	300.00	400.00	Salary	600.00	600.00
60	0.00	200.00	Expenses	200.00	200.00
				800.00	800.00
			Oil Burner Inspector		
61	150.00	150.00	Salary	150.00	150.00
62	50.00	50.00	Expenses	50.00	50.00
				200.00	200.00
			Tree Warden		
63	300.00	300.00	Salary	300.00	300.00
64	4,047.00	4,047.00	Expenses	4,047.00	4,047.00
				4,347.00	4,347.00
65	1,000.00	1,000.00	Insect,Pest Control(Moth)	1,000.00	500.00
66	2,000.00	2,000.00	Dutch Elm	2,000.00	2,000.00
67	700.00	700.00	New Trees	700.00	700.00
68	1,500.00	1,500.00	Stump Removal	1,500.00	1,500.00
				5,200.00	4,700.00
			Dog Officer		
69	316.00	444.00	Salary	470.64	470.00
70	684.00	700.00	Expenses	1,095.00	700.00
				1,565.64	1,170.00
	$153,964.60	$149,022.44	TOTAL PROTECTION	$171,806.81	$160,185.69
			HEALTH & SANITATION 1.19% of Total		
71	1,000.00	1,000.00	Board of Health-Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00
			Nurse		
72	2,000.00	2,000.00	Salary	2,000.00	2,000.00
73	200.00	200.00	Expenses	200.00	200.00
				2,200.00	2,200.00
			Plumbing Inspector		
74	300.00	300.00	Salary	360.00	360.00
75	0.00	0.00	Expenses	75.00	0.00
				435.00	360.00

tem #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
76	2,650.00	2,100.00	Sewerage Inspector-Exp.	2,100.00	2,100.00
			Animal Inspector		
77	100.00	100.00	Salary	100.00	100.00
78	15.00	15.00	Expenses	15.00	15.00
				115.00	115.00
			Milk Inspector		
79	25.00	25.00	Salary	25.00	25.00
80	15.00	15.00	Expense	15.00	15.00
				40.00	40.00
			Dump Maintenance		
81	6,032.00	6,454.24	Salary	6,454.00	6,454.00
82	15,000.00	15,000.00	Expense	18,000.00	15,000.00
				24,454.00	21,454.00
	$27,337.00	$27,209.24	TOT.HEALTH & SANITATION	$30,344.00	$27,269.00
			HIGHWAYS 5.34% of Total		
			Salary-Superintendent ($204.00 weekly)	10,608.00	10,608.00
			Wages-Labor (5 men @ $152.00 weekly)	39,520.00	39,520.00
			Expenses	71,872.00	71,872.00
	20,686.00	26,953.11	Thickly Settled (See Sp. Art. #4 -		26,953.11)
	(Funds from this account are to be used for construction, reconstruction, improvements and routine maintenance of local streets. Allocation of these funds is controlled by the Board of Selectmen)				
	8,995.30	9,095.30	Road Machinery Maint (See Sp. Art.#5 -		9,095.30)
	16,000.00	12,000.00	Ch. 765 Road Const. (See Sp. Art.#6 -		31,077.00)
	19,025.00	19,077.00	Ch. 765 Road Imp. Now Ch.765 Const.		
	(Chapter 765 funds are available for construction, reconstruction and improvement of all public highways other than State Highways. Chapter 765 funds cannot be used for ordinary maintenance. These funds are available for preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, shoulders, side road approaches, roadside drainage, traffic safety devices and for such other purposes as the Dept. of Public Works may specifically authorize.)				
83	30,000.00	30,000.00	Snow & Washouts	35,000.00	30,000.00
84	2,500.00	4,961.00	Side. Rails & Bridges	4,961.00	4,961.00
85	3,500.00	5,000.00	Repairs on Private Ways	5,000.00	5,000.00
86	4,100.00	4,920.00	Water Deptartment Work	4,920.00	4,920.00
87	10,000.00	10,000.00	Oiling Roads	10,000.00	10,000.00
	(These funds are used to defray the cost of preparing a mixture of sand and asphalt cement or liquid asphalt prepared with control of aggregate grading and mixed in place, resulting in a thin asphalt surface treatment used to waterproof and further improve the load bearing qualities of an asphalt wearing surface.)				
			OMNIBUS TOTAL	$59,881.00	$54,881.00
	$114,806.30	$122,006.41	TOTAL HIGHWAYS	$127,006.41	$122,006.41

Total Highways includes Special Articles #4,5,6

Item #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 to 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
			STREET LIGHTING .62% of Total		
88	12,000.00	14,000.00	Total Street Lighting	14,130.00	14,130.00
			VETERANS BENEFITS .41% of Total		
89	1,003.00	1,063.00	Serv. Off. Salary	1,063.00	1,063.00
90	250.00	250.00	Serv. Off. Expense	250.00	250.00
91	124.00	124.00	Care of Graves	124.00	124.00
92	803.00	851.00	Vet. Benefits-Clerk	851.00	851.00
93	7,000.00	7,000.00	Vet. Benefits	7,000.00	7,000.00
	$9,180.00	$9,288.00	TOTAL VETERAN BENEFITS	$9,288.00	$9,288.00
			SCHOOLS 63.41% of Total		
			Elementary Schools		
94			Salaries & Wages	608.271.00	602,150.00
95			Expenses - Other	111,202.00	111,202.00
96			Special Tuition & Trans.	23,000.00	23,000.00
97			Regular Transportation	37,470.00	37,470.00
98			Lunch Program	8,145.00	8,145.00
99			Vocational	800.00	800.00
			Total Elem. Budget	788,888.00	782,767.00
			Less Ch. 766 ReImb.	70,408.00	70,408.00
	$647,512.00	$713,454.00	Total Elem. Sch. Approp.	$718,480.00	$712,359.00
100	186,832.00	138,998.00	Whittier Vo-Tech.	126,010.00	126,010.00
101	701,129.00	765,849.00	Pentucket Regional	611,346.00	611,346.00
		(589,531.00	Actual Assessment)		
	$1,535,473.00	$1,618,301.00	TOTAL SCHOOLS	$1,455,836.00	$1,449,715.00
			LIBRARY 1.19% of Total		
102	8,914.00	9,630.00	Salary - Librarian	9,000.00	9,000.00
103	0.00	0.00	Assist.- Librarian	6,968.00	6,968.00
104	8,421.00	7,924.00	Wages	7,896.00	5,556.00
105	7,130.00	9,720.00	Expenses (not Incl. $2,750 in aid, re-imb & funds)	5,750.00	5,750.00
	$24,465.00	$27,274.00	TOTAL LIBRARY	$29,614.00	$27,274.00
			RECREATION .32% of Total		
106	3,500.00	3,600.00	Playground	4,000.00	4,000.00
107	1,500.00	1,620.00	Supervised Play	1,620.00	1,620.00
108	1,500.00	1,500.00	Indian Head Park	1,800.00	1,800.00
	$6,500.00	$6,720.00	TOTAL RECREATION	$7,420.00	$7,420.00
			PENSIONS 2.67% of Total		
109	30,000.00	44,364.00	Essex County Retire.	60,034.76	60,034.76
110	897.00	933.99	Pension Bill	998.01	998.01
	$30,897.00	$45,297.99	TOTAL PENSIONS	$61,032.77	$61,032.77
			UNCLASSIFIED 3.94% of Total		
111	19,000.00	21,027.00	Prop. & Liab. Insurance	27,523.00	27,523.00
112	15,200.00	19,800.00	Group Health Ins.	20,000.00	20,000.00
113	50.00	50.00	Tax Title Property	50.00	50.00

Item #	Appropriated 7-1-74 to 6-30-75	Appropriated 7-1-75 to 6-30-76		Requested 7-1-76 to 6-30-77	Recommended 7-1-76 to 6-30-77
114	300.00	800.00	Ambulance Serv.(Gar. Payt)	500.00	500.00
115	450.00	500.00	Memorial Day	500.00	500.00
116	500.00	1,000.00	Rent American Legion	1,000.00	0.00
117	250.00	1,100.00	Cons. Comm. Expense	1,100.00	1,100.00
118	180.00	180.00	Vital Statistics	180.00	180.00
119	0.00	0.00	Growth Pol. Comm. Exp.	150.00	150.00
120	1,500.00	2,000.00	Printing Town Reports	2,000.00	2,000.00
121	442.50	849.00	Merrimack Vall. Pl. Comm.	849.00	849.00
122	12,947.47	14,630.64	Light in Town Bldgs.	15,112.43	15,112.00
123	1,100.00	1,406.00	Water in Town Bldgs.	1,166.06	1,166.00
124	5,000.00	5,000.00	Writing Town History	0.00	0.00
125	0.00	5,000.00	Historical Comm. Exp.	0.00	0.00
126	600.00	900.00	Town Gardens Comm.	900.00	900.00
127	5,000.00	7,000.00	Stabilization Fund	7,000.00	5,000.00
128	10,000.00	10,000.00	Reserve Fund	15,000.00	15,000.00
129	0.00	5,197.53	(Bal) Renov Twn Hall	0.00	0.00
	$72,519.97	$91,242.64	TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	$93,530.49	$90,030.00
			WATER 2.51% of Total		
130	4,475.00	5,125.00	Salary - Mgr.	5,450.00	5,450.00
131	2,600.00	2,725.00	Salary - Clerk	2,875.00	2,875.00
132	19,850.00	21,125.00	Wages	22,250.00	22,250.00
133	30,050.00	30,600.00	Expenses	25,600.00	25,600.00
134	1,200.00	1,200.00	Light & Water Comm.	1,200.00	1,200.00
	$58,175.00	$60,775.00	TOTAL WATER	$57,375.00	$57,375.00
			CEMETERIES .70% of Total		
135	12,350.00	13,159.45	Wages	13,300.00	13,300.00
136	0.00	0.00	Clerk	500.00	500.00
137	150.00	150.00	Trustees	150.00	150.00
138	2,500.00	2,690.55	Expenses	2,050.00	2,050.00
	$15,000.00	$16,000.00	TOTAL CEMETERIES	$16,000.00	$16,000.00
			MATURING DEBT & INTEREST 7.77% of Total		
			Debts:		
139	40,000.00	40,000.00	Red Oak School	40,000.00	40,000.00
	5,000.00	0.00	School Addition	0.00	0.00
	20,000.00	20,000.00	Brox Building	0.00	0.00
140	35,000.00	35,000.00	Water Wells	35,000.00	35,000.00
141		15,000.00	Stand Pipes	15,000.00	15,000.00
142	0.00	0.00	School Deficiency	39,121.00	39,121.00
			Interests:		
143	18,900.00	17,220.00	Red Oak School	15,540.00	15,540.00
	185.00	0.00	School Addition	0.00	0.00
	1,720.00	860.00	Brox Building	0.00	0.00
144	10,000.00	7,000.00	Tax Anticipated Notes	7,000.00	7,000.00
145	23,520.00	21,805.00	Water Wells	20,090.00	20,090.00
146	3,857.50	6,557.50	Stand Pipes	5,642.50	5,642.50
147	0.00	0.00	School Deficiency	293.40	293.40
	$157,997.50	$163,442.50	TOT. MAT. DEBT & INT.	$177,686.90	$177,686.90

TOTAL OMNIBUS BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS	$2,251,134.07	$2,218,976.36
TOTAL RECOMMENDED TRANSFERS		$ 80,615.00
TOTAL RECOMMENDED SPECIAL ARTICLES		70,710.41

* Percentages calculated on total Omnibus Recommendations includes Special Articles 4,5,6

SURPLUS REVENUE			$ 270,787.19
Personal	1976	$ 19,661.97	
Personal	1975	2,374.34	
Personal	1974	480.41	
Personal	1973	976.41	
Real	1976	601,037.40	
Real	1975	46,363.07	
			$ 670,893.60
		FREE CASH DEFICIT	$ 400,106.41

BORROWING CAPACITY OF TOWN JANUARY 1, 1976

Real and Personal:

Valuation 1973 less abatements	$14,440,189.00
Valuation 1974 less abatements	14,468,527.00
Valuation 1975 less abatements	15,257,143.00

Motor Vehicle Excises:

Valuation 1973 less abatements	$ 2,695,119.00
Valuation 1974 less abatements	2,747,328.00
Valuation 1975 less abatements	2,500,823.00
Net valuation 3 yrs. less abatements	$52,109,129.00
Average valuation 3 yrs. less abatements	$15,632,738.00
5% thereof (Debt Limit)	$ 781,637.00

EXISTING TOWN DEBT

Outside Debt Limit:

Red Oak School	(1964 - $785,000) Balance	$ 390,000.00
Water Wells	(197 - $480,000) Balance	410,000.00
Standpipes	(1974 - $115,000) Balance	100,000.00
		$ 900,000.00

INTEREST ON ABOVE

Outside Debt Limit:

Red Oak School	$ 15,540.00
Water Wells	20,090.00
Standpipes	5,642.50
	$ 41,272.50

ARTICLES

1. Omnibus article on budget. - recommended

2. Authorization for Town Treasurer, with approval of Selectmen, to borrow money. - recommended

3. Authorize the Assessors to use a sum of money from "Free Cash" in the treasury toward the reduction of the 1976-77 tax rate.
   - recommended

4. To raise and appropriate a sum of money for construction, reconstruction and resurfacing of local streets.
   The Finance Committee recommends that $14,338.11 be raised and appropriated and that the Selectmen be authorized to apply an additional $12,615.00 in State funds.

5. To raise and appropriate a sum of money for maintenance of road machinery.
   The Finance Committee recommends that $9,095.30 be raised and appropriated.

6. To raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money for Chapter 765 road construction.
   The Finance Committee recommends that $31,077.00 be raised and appropriated.

7. To appropriate a sum of money from the sale of cemetery lots to be expended for "Care, Improvement and Embellishment" of Cemeteries.
   Amount requested $1,647.50

8. To appropriate a sum of money from Electric Light operating balance to be used by the Assessors with estimated receipts to reduce the 1976-77 tax rate.
   The Finance Committee recommends that $35,000.00 be appropriated to reduce the tax rate.

9. To transfer dog license fees to the Library
   Recommended

10. To accept benefits to ublic Libraries.
    Recommended

11. To raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money to be expended by the Assessors to perform duties relating to any equalization or revaluation of the Town.
    The Finance Committee recommends that $4,000 be raised and appropriated. This is a necessary, yet inexpensive alternative for the Town.

12. To transfer a sum of money from the Highway Revolving Account to Surplus Revenue.
    The Finance Committee recommends that $ 2,447.67 be transfered.

13. To rescind action on Article 1 of the October 20, 1975 Town Meeting.
    Recommended by the Finance Committee.

ARTICLES

14. To designate River Road a Scenic Road.
No Finance Committee recommendation.

15. To hear the report of the Town Government Committee.
No Finance Committee recommendation.

16. To hear the report of the Dept. of Public Works Committee.
No Finance Committee recommendation.

17. To transfer a sum of money from Revenue Sharing Funds to pay for new Fire Truck.
The Finance Committee recommends that $50,000 be transferred from Revenue Sharing funds. The Town has already committed itself to this purchase, and use of Revenue Sharing funds for this is appropriate.

18. To transfer from Revenue Sharing funds a sum of money to complete the renovations to the Brox Building.
The Finance Committee recommends that $5,000 be transferred from Revenue Sharing funds. This should be the last expenditure for final completion of the building.

19. To raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser.
Not recommended for approval. Although the present 1973 and 1974 cruisers have high mileage, $7,800 appropriated for cruiser expenses in the omnibus article ought to be sufficient to keep the cruisers going for another year. Police Department requests $4,900.00

20. To appropriate or transfer from Revenue Sharing a sum of money to equip the new Police Department headquarters.
The Finance Committee recommends that $1,000 be raised and appropriated. Some of the furniture requested is unnecessary and some could be purchased at lower prices.

21. To raise and appropriate or transfer from Revenue Sharing a sum of money for the Council on Aging.
Not recommended for approval. The Finance Committee fully recognizes the value of the Council in the lives of our Senior Citizens, but strongly contends that social welfare and related activities should be provided by the Federal and State government. Council requests $9,887.00

22. To raise and appropriate a sum of money to subsidize the cost of Ambulance Service to the Town.
Recommended by the Finance Committee, approximately $4,200.00

23. To raise and appropriate a sum of money for a new Water Department Truck.
No recommendation by the Finance Committee due to a tie vote. While the present truck is in need of body and engine work, some members felt repairs to the vehicle would be a less expensive alternative for this year. If the Town wishes to purchase a new vehicle, it should be done with Revenue Sharing funds. - Water Dept. is requesting $4,800.

24. To raise and appropriate a sum of money to renovate the Town Offices.
The Finance Committee recommends that $2,000 be raised and appropriated. Portions of the Town Hall rooms need to be expanded with the transfer of the Police Dept. to the Brox Building.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL
MERRIMAC, MASS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN *of* MERRIMAC

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,

1976

Printing & binding by
ROWLEY PRINTING, INC.
ROWLEY, MASS.

In Memoriam

To Those

Who Have Held a Public Office

in the

Town of Merrimac

Harriett F. Bigelow

Roger A. Mears

Jean A. Stuart

DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

MODERATOR

Parker McLaren

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

George P. Stevens	Term expires 1977
Nancy C. MacGregor	1978
George A. Waterhouse	1979

TOWN TREASURER

Roy C. Journeay

TAX COLLECTOR

Wilfred G. Journeay

TOWN CLERK

Dorothy A. Cloyd

ASSESSORS

Edward R. Davis	Term expires 1979
J. Duncan How	1978
Edmund L. Hamel	1977

PLANNING BOARD

Arthur D. Evans, Chairman	Term expires 1980
Douglas A. McAllister	1977
George F. Mahoney	1978
Clayton M. Sibley	1977
Richard A. Waterhouse	1977

Rosalind G. Tufts res'd 7/27/76
Daniel S. Gulezian res'd 9/20/76

MVPC — Delegate Arthur D. Evans
MVPC — Alternate Carolyn V. V. Edwards

CONSTABLES

Brian W. Peavey	Term expires 1977
Forrest M. Lavalley	1977
Maurice Carey	1977

TREE WARDEN

George T. MacGown

BOARD OF HEALTH

Arthur W. Hoyt	Term expires 1977
Robert F. Roy	1978
Constance A. Hoyt	1979

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Eida V. Jervey	Term expires 1978
Rhonda Osborne	1978
Zillah Buzzell	1979
Susan M. Coburn	1977
Charles H. Goldstein	1977

Ruth Parker — Whittier Vo-Tech Rep.
Joseph R. Burke res'd 5/24/76

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

Eida V. Jervey	Term expires 1978
Eleanor S. Hope	1978
Charlotte P. Gulezian	1977
E. Elizabeth Pittman	1977
Nathan Tufts	1979
Mary E. Parry	1979

PLAYGROUND COMMISSION

George P. Stevens	Term expires 1978
Michael J. McLaughlin	1980
William B. Bickford	1981
Robert D. Randall	1977

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER AND MEASURERS OF WOOD & BARK

Richard Vigneault	Term expires 1977
Richard Sargent	1977
Arthur E. Benjamin	1977

TRUSTEES OF KIMBALL PARK

Louis P. Bibeau	Term expires 1978
Allen T. Wilson	1979

MUNICIPAL LIGHT COMMISSIONERS

Brian W. Peavey	Term expires 1978
Wilbur E. Wallace	1977
James A. Hume	1979

MUNICIPAL WATER COMMISSIONERS

Brian W. Peavey	Term expires 1978
Wilbur E. Wallace	1977
James A. Hume	1979

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY

Harold R. Arbour	Term expires 1978
Merrill B. Smith	1977
Alva W. Clark	1979

MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dorothy Olson, Gov. Appointee	
William H. Whiting	Term expires 1980
William D. Vance	1978
George E. Lucy	1977
Alexander M. Sullivan	1981

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robert N. Zacharis, Ch	Term expires 1977
John E. Dunn	1977
Harry A. Daniels	1977
Rolvin S. Bothwell	1977
James S. Smith	1977
Deborah C. Willman	1977
Harry Bowen	1977

BOARD OF APPEALS

William J. Burns, Ch	Term expires 1978
David W. Goodwin res'd 12/31/76	1977
Richard Herbert	1977
Robert MacLeod	1979
Karen Ehrig	1979
Melinda Davis	1980

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS BOARD OF APPEALS

Robert J. Sayers Thomas F. McKenna Ellan L. Evans
Peter G. Conner res'd 10/4/76
Eileen Sheehan — Secretary

SELECTMEN'S SECRETARY

Barbara A. Zelisko

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Carl J. Walden

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Mildred Harrington	Term expires 1977
Michael J. McLaughlin	1978
Arthur R. Cloyd	1979

LEGAL COUNSEL

Ashod N. Amirian

ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

Madeleine A. Lay

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF
Donald J. Montigny

SERGEANT
Alfred Nichols

CLERK — DISPATCHER — MATRON
Barbara Dirago

PERMANENT FULL TIME PATROLMEN

James A. Flynn, Jr. Roland L. Spinney
Richard D. Smith

SERGEANT OF POLICEWOMEN-
CLERK-DISPATCHER

M. Lucille Gamelin res'd 4/2/76

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

Glen D. Belinsky
Edward A. Cardone, Jr.
Richard G. Noone
Raymond J. Bastarache
Daniel L. Brodie
Brian W. Peavey
David N. Sharkey
Edward Syvinski
Wayne D. Bickford
Arthur D. Evans
Jeffrey O. Frost

POLICE DISPATCHER — MATRON

Marilyn Darbe

POLICE DISPATCHERS

Alfred Burns
Mark Richards

PART — TIME POLICE DISPATCHERS

Emily Merritt
Dorothy G. Whittredge

CROSSING GUARDS

Virginia R. Burns
Margaret M. Gynan
Joyce E. Nevins
Leslie J. Walker
Barbara Ann Wilbur

HONORARY POLICE CHIEFS

Alexander M. Sullivan
Maurice Carey

HONORARY POLICE OFFICERS

Fred A. Smith
Dr. Harry Blotner
George R. Buzzell
Frank Danforth
Thomas Chaff

FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINEERS

Harold J. Hume
David Stewart
Richard J. Powers, Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Richard J. Powers

GAS INSPECTOR

Richard Pearson

WIRING INSPECTOR

Roy E. Keiser

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Robert S. Michel

DOG OFFICER

William F. Roberts

DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

John Gilchrist

FENCE VIEWER

Walter Perkins

HEALTH NURSE

Charlotte E. Stepanian

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Gaetano T. Caruso

INSPECTOR OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

Frederick Key

INSPECTOR OF MILK AND ANIMALS

George L. Pittman

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS

George T. MacGown

VETERANS' SERVICE AND GRAVE OFFICER
VETERANS' AGENT AND BURIAL AGENT

Harrison DeLong

BROX BUILDING RENOVATION COMMITTEE

Forrest L. Bishop, Chairman
Everett L. Cossar, Clerk
George P. Stevens
Raymond Bastarache
Richard Herbert
Ronald Shaw
Richard Powers
Donald J. Montigny

MERRIMAC HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Evelyn Calnan
Dr. Frederick Sweetsir
Jeffrey Hoyt
Dorothy Condon
Charlotte McCarron
Harold Waterhouse
Kenneth G. Fowle

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Nathan Tufts, Ch	Term expires 1978
Ronald Shaw	1978
Robert Hanks	1978
Parker McLaren	1977
Henry D. Lay	1979
Walter Perkins	1979
Robert Topitzer	1979

MERRIMAC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

George U. Curry	Term expires 1978
Peter F. Smiles	1978
Robert McCarthy	1978
Harold J. Hume	1977
Charles E. Billups	1977
James S. Smith	1981
Kenneth G. Fowle	1981

TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Nancy Perkins, Chairman
Nathan Tufts
Merrill B. Smith, Sr.
Ellsworth D. Commins, Jr.
Carrie Edwards

COUNCIL ON AGING

Karen Zacharis, Chairman	Term expires 1977 3 yr
Nancy C. MacGregor	1977 3 yr
William Whiting	1977 3 yr
Charlotte E. Stepanian	1978 3 yr
Inez Lund	1979 3 yr
Evelyn B. Morrill	1978 2 yr
Corrado Pirrota	1977 2 yr
Carole Sokolowski	1978 2 yr
Evelyn M. Greeley	1977 2 yr
Carey Reynolds	1977 1 yr
Rosalind Smedberg	1977 1 yr

SWORN WEIGHERS

George Waterhouse
Robert Stevenson
John Caesar
Ralph Buzzell
David W. Stewart

SEWAGE TREATMENT COMMITTEE

Theodore Dydowicz
William Roche
Parker McLaren

HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

Wallace Blanchard
Beverly Allen
Frank Sowick
John Gilchrist
Karen Zacharis

GROWTH POLICY COMMITTEE

Charlotte Gulexian, Co-Ch
Nathan tufts, Co-Ch
George Stevens
Ronald Shaw
Arthur D. Evans
Nancy C. MacGregor
Dorothy Olson
Robert F. Roy
Arthur Hoyt
Carl Deminie
Edward Ryan
Robert Sargent

SELECTMEN'S DESIGNEE — M V P C
SELECTMEN'S DESIGNEE — MV Transportation
Policy Advisory Group
Carolyn V. Edwards

MVPC REPRESENTATIVE to 208 POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nathan Tufts

ESSEX COUNTY HISTORIC & SCENIC PLANNING COMMISSION
Cyndi E. Creech

VOTE FOR OFFICERS ANNUAL ELECTION
May 10, 1976

MODERATOR	
H. Parker McLaren	548
Blanks	102
TOWN CLERK	
Dorothy A. Cloyd	565
Blanks	83
SELECTMAN for three years	
George A. Waterhouse	479
John H. Willman	155
Blanks	15
TOWN TREASURER for one year	
Roy C. Journeay	511
Blanks	137
TAX COLLECTOR for three years	
Wilfred G. Journeay	510
Blanks	139
ASSESSOR for three years	
Edward R. Davis	263
Joseph F. Dugas	240
Vern Mowrey	86
PLANNING BOARD for five years	
Daniel S. Gulezian	516
Blanks	134
TREE WARDEN for three years	
George T. MacGown	288
Richard A. Vigneault	210
Arthur E. Benjamin	174
Blanks	37
BOARD OF HEALTH for three years	
Constance A. Hoyt	542
Blanks	108
SCHOOL COMMITTEE for three years (1)	
Zillah M. Buzzell	517
Charles Goldstein	130

SCHOOL COMMITTEE for one year(1)

Susan M. Coburn	448
Blanks	210

LIBRARY TRUSTEE for three years (2)

Mary E. Parry	487
Nathan Tufts, Jr.	319
Michael F. Grazer	176

PLAYGROUND COMMISSION for five years(1)

William B. Bickford	516
Blanks	134

LIGHT COMMISSIONER for three years

James A. Hume	548
Blanks	101

TRUSTEE OF CEMETERY for three years

Alva W. Clark	529
Blanks	121

MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY for five years

Alexander M. Sullivan	497
Evelyn B. Morrill	111
Blanks	42

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER & MEASURERS OF WOOD & BARK for one year

Richard Vigneault	5
Richard Sargent	3
Susanna Brown	3
David Dutton	3
Arthur E. Benjamin	3
Walter Perkins	3
Edgar Sargent	2
Sandra Dutton	2
Louis Bibeau	2

TRUSTEE OF KIMBALL PARK

Edward Madden	3
Louis Bibeau	2
Single votes	13
Blanks	632

JURY LIST

The following jury list for the year beginning July 1, 1976 has been prepared by the Board of Selectmen in compliance with Chapter 234, Section 4, of the General Laws and adopted August 23, 1976:

NAME ADDRESS	OCCUPATION
ALLEN, Donald E., 5 Pine Street	Maintenance Man
BAILEY, Sue Ellen, 32 Summer Street	Secretary
BERTRAM, Jane L., Bear Hill Road	Real Estate
BILLUPS, Charles, Birch Meadow Road	Haverhill Gas Co.
BOTHWELL, Rolvin S., 10 Bear Hill Road	Supervisor
BOUCHER, Robert O., 18 Nichols	Set up operator
BRODIE, Patricia, 2C Greenleaf Drive	Hairdresser
BROOKS, Wayne E., 85 East Main Street	Mass Elec
BRUCE, Jean F., 40 River Road	Bookkeeper
BURKE, Frances M., 27 Emery Street	Western Elec
BRUCE, John R., 40 River Road	Auto Parts
BURST, Kenneth, 35 Hadley Road	Western Elec
BUXTON, Juanita, 32 Harriman Road	Western Elec
CALNAN, Walter D., 48 West Main Street	Retired
CARON, George C., 96 River Road	Silver Worker
CARPENTER, George E. Jr., 7 Glenn Road	Union Rep
CHENEY, Mary C., 15 High Street	Housewife
COPP, Ronald, 6E Greenleaf Drive	Kenoza Vend
CULBERT, John, Trailerland	Dishwasher
CURRY, George U., 32 River Road	Elec Eng
DELLECHAIRE, John F., 55 Bear Hill Road	Vice Pres
DEVEIKIS, Joseph B., 10 Middle Road	Engineer
DOLIBER, Betty, 9 Sawyer Street	Librarian
DOW, Patty A., 58 Birch Meadow Road	Clerk
FERRARI, Raymond F., 55 West Main Street	New England Power
FLYNN, John E., 10 Maple Street	Supervisor
FROST, Hartley, 40 Woodland Street	Credit Manager
GLIDDEN, James P., 105 River Road	Sales Manager
GOODWIN, Katherine V., 92 River Road	At Home
HARGRAVES, Velma A., 5 Winter Street	At Home
HART, Clifford R., 1 Vendome Street	Western Electric
HART, Nancy M., 11 Lincoln Street	Social Security
HENRY, Roger W.T., 107 East Main Street	Production Planner
HIGH, Mary E., 76 River Road	At Home
KERSHAW, Russell E., 25 Woodland Street	Real Estate
LUND, Inez, 34 High Street	Council on Aging
MACLEOD, Barbara D., 70 River Road	At Home
MANN, Walter H., 68 Birch Meadow Road	Salesman
MELANSON, William J., 35 West Shore Road	Grinder
PARRY, James P., Merrimac Street	Insurance Investigator
SEVIGNY, Raymond A., 28 Locust Street	Western Electric
SMITH, Leon B., 13 Orchard Street	Sheet Metal Worker
STEWART, John E., 2 Vale Street	Western Electric
TREFETHEN, Margaret A., 4 Middle Road	Merrimac Metal

MERRIMAC FIRE ALARM

Emergency Fire Alarm Telephone Number 6-8111

Emergency Phone 6-8111 should be used for fire calls only. If for any reason the line is out of order, please dial operator and ask for EMERGENCY OPERATOR.

IN ALL CASES GIVE YOUR NAME AND EXACT LOCATION OF FIRE

3-3	Chief's Call
4	Fire Station
5	Merrimac Square
12	Locust Street, corner of Green Street
13	Main Street, opposite Forest Street
14	Main Street, near residence of Carl Olson
15	Birch Meadow Rd and Main St., to Haverhill-Merrimac line
16	Woodland and Grove Street
17	School and Pleasant Streets
18	School and Mill Streets
21	East Main Street, opposite Skip's Snack Bar
23	56 East Main Street
24	Church Street, opposite Maple Street
25	Church and Mechanic Streets
26	Summer and Prospect Streets
27	Church Street, near residence of Richard Powers
28	Sawyer and Nichols Streets
31	Pleasant Street, Merrimacport
32	Merrimac Street, near Middle Road
34	Merrimac Street, Merrimacport
35	22 High St., Merrimacport
36	Merrimac and Broad Streets, Merrimacport
41	Lower East Main Street, Lake Attitash entrance
42	Lake Attitash Park at Fern Avenue
43	Emery Street at Burnside
51	Locust and Walnut Streets
52	Lower Locust Street, to Merrimac-Haverhill line
62	Birch Meadow Rd. and Hadley District - Telephone - No Box
71	Bear Hill Rd., to Newton, N.H. line - Telephone - No Box
72	West Shore, Lake Attitash, - Telephone - No Box
74	Dance Hall, Lake Attitash - Telephone - No Box
112	Nativity Church, Green Street
132	Helen R. Donaghue School - Union Street
133	Teloka - Union Street
142	Northeast National Bank
171	Housing for Elderly
227	Harriman and Highland Roads
271	Red Oak School - Church Street
272	Harriman Road
516	Oak Circle - Telephone - No Box
524	Second and Cross Streets, Amesbury - Telephone - No Box

2 Recall - All Out - Also All Clear Air Raid
2 10 times - Disaster Call Civil Defense

NO SCHOOL SIGNAL

NO SCHOOL announcements will be made over Station WBZ and WHAV after 7 o'clock in the morning.

6:30 a.m. 11 - 11 - 11 - NO SCHOOL ALL DAY

George A. Waterhouse was elected in May of 1976 to serve as a member of the Board of Selectmen for a three year term. At the following Selectmen's meeting the board organized as follows; Nancy C. MacGregor, Chairman, George A. Waterhouse, Clerk and George P. Stevens, Member.

The Board was notified in January, 1976 that the firm of Camp Dresser & McKee had filed Merrimac's application for grant monies for the sewage treatment facilities study with the State for approval.

In January the Board appointed a Growth Policy Committee as requested by the State. This Committee, made up of as representative a group of citizens as possible, after months of hard work, presented the Town with a well developed thoughtful report; an excellent resource for future planning which is available for study in the Town Offices.

In February, as more CETA monies became available, the Town filled twelve job slots, providing employment for a period of one year throughout Town departments. In this same month the Selectmen signed a contract with Paul Wier Associates, a consulting firm skilled in the art of procuring Federal and State grants. The contract was signed with the understanding that no fees would be paid unless Merrimac was awarded the grant applied for.

In April Camp Dresser McKee informed the Board of Selectmen, and the Sewage Committee that on December 6, 1976 Camp Dresser McKee announced to the Board, and the Sewerage Committee their choice of Skunk Road for the location of an extended aeration treatment facility. On the same day the Board received, with regret, a letter of resignation from Ronald Sarasin, long time Manager of the Light and Water Department. December 16, the first public hearing was held to inform citizens of the recommended location for the sewerage treatment facility. The decision of those in attendance was that more information was needed on other possible sites and it was agreed that a second hearing would be held.

The calendar year of 1976 was a particularly busy one for everyone concerned with the activities and decisions to be made regarding the construction of a sewerage treatment facility. The Board particularly wishes to that the Sewerage Committee; Ted Dydowicz, William Roche and Parker McLaren.

With the ever increasing influx of Federal and State grant monies, Public Works monies and CETA funds etc. and the problem of ever shorter time periods between announcements of availability of funds and closing dates for applications, small Towns such as Merrimac, are seriously disadvantaged in the competition with larger Towns and Cities who carry full-time Engineers, Planners and Consultants on their staffs. While Merrimac has begun to develope some long range goals and plans, i.e. the Master Plan, Growth Policy Report, the Divi-

sion of Water Pollution Control would not approve the Step 1 Application until the cost of the study was reduced by approximately 50%. It was agreed that Camp Dresser McKee would, by necessity, have to reduce their scope of work to consideration of only three types of treatment; land distribution, aerobic lagoons and extended aeration.

At midnight on April 10, 1976 the Town Church Bells rang out to commemorate Merrimac's 100th Birthday, and to signal the beginning of the special events of celebration planned by the Centennial Committee.

On May 3rd at the Annual Town Meeting the major articles voted included the transfer of $40,000 of Revenue Sharing money to help pay for the new Fire Truck, transfer of $4,725.25 for new water truck from the Revenue Sharing funds, transfer of $7,000 from the same funds for preparation of a Master Plan and a transfer from the Stabilization Fund of $13,000 to reroof the Donaghue School.

In late September, Camp Dresser McKee met again with the Board and Sewerage Committee to advise us of their suggestions for the location of treatment plant. These included Mill Street, North Street, Broad Street and Skunk Road.

In October a Special Town Meeting was held for the primary purpose of paying unpaid bills from the previous year. The Town also voted unanaimously to preserve the B & M Railroad right-of-way as a woodland trail and to call it the Jay McLaren Memorial Trail.

With the new Zoning Law and Conservation and Recreation Plans, it is clear that more coordination of effort and increased communication between all Boards and Departments will contribute to a more meaningful expenditure of grant monies, and a more competitive position for the Town in the future.

The Board looks forward to a year therefore, of greater interaction between all other Boards, Elected and Appointed Officials and the Citizens of Merrimac, and we wish to express our thanks to all who have served the Town during our Birthday Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy C. MacGregor
George A. Waterhouse
George P. Stevens
Board of Selectmen

REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and to the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac:

I hereby submit my 47th report as Town Treasurer which is also my final report as I am not a candidate for re-election this year.

During 1976 there were 3,121 checks issued manually for bills owed by the Town.

There were approximately 7,000 payroll checks issued by computer which had to be dated, signed, and distributed for the Town payroll amounting to a total of $981,794.53. There were 304 persons who received pay at sometime during 1976. Interest received, General Cash & Revenue Sharing, $9,450.55.

The receipts for 1976 amounted to $3,451,851.78 which had to be recorded, deposited, and invested which I was responsible for.

I have enjoyed being Town Treasurer and assure my sucessor I will be available for assistance if requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy C. Journeay
Town Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

In accordance with provisions of Chapter 41, of the General Laws, I hereby submit the following of the Accountant's Department, first expressing my appreciation for the cooperation and courteous assistance rendered by you and all other Town Officials in complying with the requirements of our system. I would also like to thank Mrs. Gertrude Bishop, the out-going Town Accountant, and the State Bureau of Accounts, for the information and advice extended to me during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl J. Walden
Town Accountant

TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Balance Sheet — June 18, 1974

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

Assets		
Cash:		
General		$574,308.28
Revenue Sharing		87,773,65
Special:		
Municipal Light		
Depreciation		90,955.81
Advances for Petty:		
Selectmen	$10.00	
Tax Collector	25.00	
Library	10.00	
Municipal Lights	125.00	
		170.00
Accounts Receivable:		
Taxes:		
Levy of 1971:		
Personal Property	19.95	
Levy of 1972:		
Personal Property	1,277.36	
Real Estate	7,082.49	
Levy of 1973-74:		
Personal Property	23,236.94	
Real Estate	507,116.03	538,732.77

Liabilities and Reserves		
Temporary Loans:		
In Anticipation of Revenue		$250,000.00
Guarantee Deposits:		
Municipal Light		2,791.67
Agency:		
County-Dog Licenses	$372.05	
Sales Tax-Municipal Light	11.40	
		383.45
Tailings-Unclaimed Checks		230.90
Trust Fund Income:		
James D. Whittier Library	1,489.00	
Cemetery Perpetual Care	1,585.09	
		3,074.09
Premium on Loans:		
Water		2,220.53
Federal Grants:		
School:		
Public Law #89-10	1,532.20	
Revenue Sharing:		
Public Law #92-512	86,611.66	
		88,143.86

Motor Vehicle Excise:		
Levy of 1970	589.11	
Levy of 1971	3,314.68	
Levy of 1972	8,553.23	
Levy of 1973	10,895.76	
Levy of 1974	17,363.21	40,715.99

Revolving Funds:		
Off Duty Work Detail	147.22	
School Lunch	12,410.10	
		12,557.32

GENERAL ACCOUNTS (CONT.)

Accounts Receivable: (Cont.)		
Farm Excise:		
Levy of 1972	7.00	
Levy of 1973	4.50	
Levy of 1974	251.88	
		263.38
Special Taxes:		
In Litigation		3,853.89
Tax Titles and Possessions:		
Tax Titles	6,985.46	
Tax Posessions	7,947.42	
		14,932.88
Departmental:		
Veterans' Services	4,225.60	
Cemetery	1,831.00	
		6,056.60
Municipal Light :		
Rates	45,602.25	
Power	19,038.56	
Miscellaneous	9,102.16	
		73,742.97
Water:		
Liens Added to Taxes:		
Levy of 1973	81.15	
Rates	5,399.01	

Appropriation Balances:		
Revenue:		
General	211,543.91	
Municipal Light:		
Maintenance and Operation	24,540.69	
Depreciation	90,955.81	
Water	16,308.20	
Non-Revenue:		
Water Construction	357,276.67	
Revenue Sharing:		
Municipal Building	127.51	
Highway Equipment	1,034.48	
		701,787.27
Appropriation Control 1975		2,213,540,94
Loans Authorized and Unissued		707,000.00
Overestimates 1973:		
State:		
Parking Areas	1,343.39	
Mosquito Control	54.21	
Air Pollution	32.51	
Elderly Governmental Retirees	161.30	

Services	549.91	
Meter Rentals	260.00	
		6,290.07
Aid to Highways:		
State	32,595.03	
County	11,484.02	
		44,079.05
Revenue 1975		2,183.540.94
Loans Authorized:		
Sewer	400,000.00	
Water	307,000.00	
		707,000.00

		1,591.41
Sale of Cemetery Lots Fund		1,300.00
Receipts Reserved for Appropriations:		
Road Machinery Fund	2,265.17	
Highway Chapter 1140-Section 20	18,411.00	
Highway Chapter 1140-Section 22	30,686.00	
Indian Head Park Fees	276.00	
Conservation Fund	2,897.94	
Water-Meters	12,857.25	
		67,393.36

GENERAL ACCOUNTS (CONT.)

Unprovided For or Overdrawn Accounts:		
Underestimate 1973-74:		
County Tax		3,488.00

Reserve Fund-Overlay Surplus		24,197.86
Overlays Reserved for Abatements:		
Levy of 1971	19.95	
Levy of 1972	2,045.82	
Levy of 1973	5,397.50	
		7,463.27
Revenue Reserved Until Collected:		
Motor Vehicle Excise	40,715.99	
Farm Excise	263.38	
Special Tax	3,853.89	
Tax Title and Possession	14,932.88	
Departmental	6,056.60	
Municipal Light	73,742.97	
Water	6,290.07	
Aid to Highway	44,079.05	
		189,934.83
Reserve for Petty Cash Advance		170.00

			Surplus Revenue		102,123.52
		$4,375,904.28			$4,375,904.28

DEBT ACCOUNTS

Net Funded or Fixed Debt:			Serial Loans:		
Inside Debt Limit:			Inside Debt Limit:		
General		$5,000.00	General:		
			School		$5,000.00
Outside Debt Limit:					
General	$510,000.00		Outside Debt Limit:		
Public Service			General:		
Enterprise	488,000.00		Municipal Building	$40,000.00	
		998,000.00	School	470,000.00	
			Public Service		
			Enterprise:		
			Water	488,000.00	
					998,000.00
		$1,003,000.00			$1,003,000.00

TRUST AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

Trust and Investment Funds:		In Custody of Treasurer:	
Cash and Securities:		School Fund:	
In Custody of Treasurer	$130,497.14	Building Renovation	$97.27
		Library Funds:	
		Willie Colby	200.00
		Dr. Harry J. Cushing	500.00
		A. E. Goodwin	200.00
		Francis E. Hanley	500.00
		Thomas H. Hoyt	17,751.04
		Nichols Memorial	500.00
			1,000.00

	Laura Patten	
	D. J. Poore	500.00
	Albert P. Wadleigh	2,284.62
	James D. Whittier	500.00
	Park Funds:	
	Judith Kimball	1,898.51
	Amos Weed	3,084.86
	Cemetery Funds:	
	Perpetual Care	89,920.62
	Harry J. Robinson Special Care	1,500.00
	Investment Funds:	
	Post-War Rehabilitation	1,371.71
	Stabilization	8,688.51
$130,497.14		$130,497.14

RECONCILIATION OF CASH
FISCAL YEAR 1976

CASH BALANCE — July 1, 1975		299,908.53
RECEIPTS		
1. Taxes		
a. Property	1,112,011.78	
b. Tax Title Redemptions	8,217.12	
c. Farm Animal Excise	167.71	
d. State Local Aid	26,044.33	1,146,440.04
2. Licenses & Permits		
a. Alcoholic Beverage	3,550.00	
b. Other	3,096.75	6,646.75
3. Fines & Forfeits		
a. Court		1,615.00
4. Grants & Gifts		
a. From State - School	879,398.77	
b. From State - Other	53,948.39	
c. From County - Dog Fund	529.88	933,877.04
5. All Other General Revenue		
a. Tailings, Cancelled Checks	4,066.98	
b. Sale of Bicycles	70.00	4,136.98
6. Special Assessments		
a. Water Liens		972.55
7. Privileges		
a. Motor Vehicle Excise	142,566.52	
b. Trailer Park Fees	10,464.00	153,030.52
8. Departmental		
a. General Government	232.85	
b. Public Safety	17,282.91	
o. Highways	66,110.62	
d. Veterans' Services	16,966.96	
e. Schools	22,007.59	
f. Libraries	457.46	
g. Recreation	232.00	
h. Unclassified	9,824.53	133,184.92
9. Public Service Enterprises		
a. Light Department	583,920.94	
b. Water Department	108,264.55	692,185.49
10. Cemeteries		
a. Sale of Lots	1,045.00	
b. Miscellaneous	4,160.00	5,205.00
11. Interest		
a. On Deposits	18,187.77	
b. On Taxes & Assessments	4,659.07	
c. On Motor Vehicle Excise	456.17	
d. Library Trust Funds	1,980.87	
e. Cemetery Trust Funds	5,499.89	
f. Other	1,463.91	32,247.68
12. Municipal Indebtedness		
a. Loan for School Judgement		39,121.00

13. Agency, Trust & Investment			
a. Dog Licenses for County	631.45		
b. Cemetery Perpetual Care	2,840.00		
c. Trust Fund Withdrawals	27,160.26		
d. Certificates of Deposit	230,000.00	260,631.71	3,409,295.58
TOTAL, CASH & RECEIPTS			3,709,204.11
EXPENDITURES			
1. Departmental		2,084,915.34	
2. Public Service Enterprises		582,420.22	
3. Cemeteries		18,692.88	
4. Interest		46,521.30	
5. Municipal Indebtedness		114,000.00	
6. State & County Assessments		59,185.41	
7. Agency, Trust & Investment		150,304.34	
8. Refunds		6,735.06	3,062,774.55
CASH BALANCE — June 30, 1976			646,429.56
TOTAL, CASH & EXPENDITURES			3,709,204.11

RECONCILIATION OF REVENUE SHARING CASH
FISCAL YEAR 1976

BALANCE, July 1, 1975			73,368.57
Receipts			
1. Grants &Gifts			
a. Entitlements	78,533.00		
2. Interest	4,315.65	82,848.65	
TOTAL, CASH & RECEIPTS			156,217.22
EXPENDITURES			
1. Departmental		91,515.80	
CASH BALANCE June 30, 1976		64,701.42	
TOTAL, CASH & EXPENDITURES			156,217.22

CLASSIFICATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEAR 1976

	Balance July 1, 1975	Appropriated	Receipts Transfers In or Out (-)	Total Available	Expenditures	Balance, June 30, 1976
1. Departmental						
A. General Government						
1) Moderator						
a) Salaries & Wages		12.00		12.00	12.00	
2) Selectmen						
a) Salaries		2,100.00		2,100.00	2,100.00	
b) Clerk's Salary		4,150.00	805.00	4,955.00	4,794.81	160.19
c) Expenses		1,475.00		1,475.00	1,438.93	36.07
3) Accountant						
a) Salary		9,360.00		9,360.00	9,339.00	21.00
b) Expenses		100.00		100.00	100.00	
4) Treasurer						
a) Salary		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00	
b. Clerk's Salary		600.00		600.00	600.00	
c) Expenses		3,100.00		3,100.00	3,099.09	.91
d) Tax Title Possessions Local Expense	140.00			140.00	140.00	
e) Bonding Town Officers		841.00		841.00	841.00	
5) Tax Collector						
a) Salary		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	
b) Clerk's Salary		900.00		900.00	900.00	
c) Expense		2,575.00	600.00	3,175.00	3,174.85	.15
6) Assessors						
a) Salaries		3,000.00		3,000.00	3,000.00	
b) Clerk's Salary		4,280.00		4,280.00	4,279.60	.40
c) Expense		3,575.00		35,75.00	3,574.68	.32
d) Equalization		3,000.00		3,000.00	2,951.72	48.28
7) Finance Committee						
a) Expense		1,000.00		1,000.00	752.05	247.95
8) Town Clerk						
a) Salary		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
b) Expense		610.00		610.00	587.44	22.56

9) Law						
a) Salary		1,980.00		1,980.00	1,980.00	
b) Expense		4,500.00		4,500.00	2,528.78	1,971.22
10) Public Works						
a) Light & Water Commissioners Salary		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00	
11) Election & Registration						
a) Election Officers' Salaries		796.00		796.00	587.00	209.00
b) Election Officers' Expenses		54.00		54.00	42.00	12.00
c) Registrars' Salaries		450.00		450.00	450.00	
d) Registrars' Expense		150.00		150.00	138.89	11.11
e) Census Taker's Expense		400.00		400.00	400.00	
f) State Census			1,045.50	1,045.50	1,045.50	
11) Planning Board						
a) Expense		800.00		800.00	622.04	177.96
12) Zoning Board of Appeals						
a) Expense		400.00		400.00	266.92	133.08
13) Town Hall						
a) Janitor's Salary		900.00		900.00	900.00	
b) Maintenance Expense		2,900.00		2,900.00	2,860.94	39.06
c) Heating		2,000.00	600.00	2,600.00	2,392.28	207.72
14) Brox Building						
a) Heating		5,000.00		5,000.00	3,818.27	1,181.73
B. Public Safety						
1) Police Department						
a) Chief's Salary		15,355.99	462.00	15,817.99	15,817.98	.01
b) Sergeant's Salary		11,260.52	336.68	11,597.20	11,552.82	44.38
c) Patrolmen's Salaries		40,203.80		40,203.80	38,561.02	1,642.78
d) Clerk's Salary		600.00		600.00	600.00	
e) Specials' Wages		10,800.00		10,800.00	10,749.93	50.07
f) Crossing Guards Wages		3,360.00		3,360.00	2,840.00	520.00
g) Overtime		13,994.33		13,994.33	8,027.21	5,967.12
h) Other Expense		13,255.00	1,830.08	15,085.08	15,062.26	22.82
i) Dispatcher's Wages		6,282.80		6,282.80	6,046.47	236.33
j) Dispatcher's Expense		2,700.00		2,700.00	2,700.00	
k) Revolving Fund	165.33		9,850.16	10,015.49	9,685.58	329.91*

	Balance July 1, 1975	Appropriated	Receipts Transfers In or Out (-)	Total Available	Expenditures	Balance, June 30, 1976
2) Fire Department						
a) Firemen's Wages		9,300.00		9,300.00	9,294.04	5.96
b) Fire Engineer's Wages		1,050.00		1,050.00	1,050.00	
c) Forest Fire Wardens' Wages		200.00		200.00	199.99	.01
d) Expenses		8,119.00		8,119.00	8,055.22	63.78
3) Tree Warden Department						
a) Tree Warden Salary		300.00		300.00		300.00
b) Tree Warden Expense		4,047.00		4,047.00	4,047.00	
c) Moth Department		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
d) Dutch Elm		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	
e) New Trees		700.00		700.00	700.00	
f) Stump Removal		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	
4) Inspectors						
a) Gas Inspector Salary		417.00		417.00	417.00	
b) Gas Inspector Expense		174.00		174.00	174.00	
c) Wiring Inspector Salary		384.00		384.00	384.00	
d) Wiring Inspector Salary		75.00		75.00	75.00	
e) Building Inspector Salary		400.00		400.00	400.00	
f) Building Inspector Expense		200.00		200.00	200.00	
g) Oil Burner Inspector Salary		150.00		150.00	150.00	
h) Oil Burner Inspector Expense		50.00		50.00	50.00	
i) Plumbing Inspector Salary		300.00		300.00	300.00	
5) Dog Officer						
a) Salary		444.00		444.00	407.00	37.00
b) Expense		700.00	54.33	754.33	752.00	2.33
6) Civil Defense						
a) Expense	369.52			369.52	67.50	303.02*
C. Health and Sanitation						
1) Health Nurse						
a) Salary		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	
b) Expense		200.00		200.00	64.67	135.33

2) Board of Health Expense		1,000.00		1,000.00	491.80	508.20
3) Sewage Inspector Expense		2,100.00		2,100.00	922.50	1,177.50
4) Vital Statistics Expense		180.00		180.00	125.00	55.00
5) Animal Inspector						
a) Salary		100.00		100.00	100.00	
b) Expense		15.00		15.00	15.00	
6) Milk Inspector						
a) Salary		25.00		25.00	25.00	
b) Expense		15.00		15.00	15.00	
7) Dump Maintenance						
a) Salary		6,454.24		6,454.24	6,454.24	
b) Expense		15,000.00	21.08	15,021.08	15,021.08	
8) Hire Surveyor for Dump	5,000.00			5,000.00	5,000.00	
D. Highways						
1) Thickly Settled		19,339.11	20,256.20	39,595.31	26,980.31	12,615.00*
2) Road Machinery Maintenance		9,095.30		9,095.30	9,090.97	4.33
3) Snow and Washouts		30,000.00	2,500.00	32,500.00	32,500.00	
4) Chapter 765, Road Construction		8,000.00	4,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	
5) Chapter 765, Road Improvements		9,627.00	9,450.00	19,077.00	19,076.31	.69
6) Chapter 90, Road Construction	6,892.55			6,892.55	6,891.34	1.21*
7) Sidewalks, Railings, & Bridges			4,961.00	4,961.00	4,961.00	
8) Repairs on Private Ways		5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00	
9) Oiling Roads		5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
10) Water Department Work		4,920.00		4,920.00	4,920.00	
11) Fire Emergency — Pick-up and Sander			3,436.00	3,436.00	3,436.00	
12) Street Lighting		14,000.00	127.38	14,127.38	14,127.38	
E. Veteran's Services						
1) Veterans Service Officer						
a) Salary		1,063.00		1,063.00	1,063.00	
b) Expense		250.00		250.00	250.00	
2) Veteran's Benefits						
a) Clerk's Salary		851.00		851.00	851.00	
b) Expense		7,000.00	5,098.68	12,098.68	5,607.53	6,491.15*
3) Care of Veterans' Grants		124.00		124.00	45.64	78.36

	Balance July 1, 1975	Appropriated	Receipts Transfers In or Out (-)	Total Available	Expenditures	Balance, June 30, 1976
F. Schools						
1) Salaries, Wages, Tuition & Transportation, etc	71345400		39,121.00	752,575.00	714,063.23	38,511.77
2) PL 89-10 Title 2-Project 57	27.45			27.45	27.45	
3) Title 2-Project 146			1,431.95	1,431.95	1,431.95	
4) Title 1-Project 75-188-283			8,572.00	8,572.00	8,572.00	
5) Title 1-Project 76-180-093			22,557.00	22,557.00	22,557.00	
6) Title 1-Project 75-100-072	797.86			797.86	797.86	
7) School Lunch	9,584.01		46,333.47	55,917.48	47,661.17	8,256.31*
8) Pentucket Assessment		765,849.00	−176,317.00	589,532.00	589,532.00	
9) Whittier Assessment		138,998.00	−28,470.96	110,527.04	110,527.04	
G. Library						
1) Librarian's Salary		9,630.00		9,630.00	9,615.85	14.15
2) Wages		7,924.00		7,924.00	7,903.43	20.57
3) Expense		9,720.00	2,121.76	11,841.76	11,839.74	2.02
4) State Library Grant			1,950.00	1,950.00	1,207.03	742.97*
5) Income from Tom Hoyt Trust			3,736.81	3,736.81	3,736.81	
6) Income from Various "Book" Trusts			23,717.30	23,717.30	23,539.45	177.85*
H. Parks and Recreation						
1) Playground		3,600.00		3,600.00	3,575.56	24.44
2) Supervised Play		1,620.00		1,620.00	1,620.00	
3) Indian Head Park Expense		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,483.01	16.99
4) Kimball Park	250.52			250.52	166.00	84.52*
5) Conservation Commission Expense		1,100.00		1,100.00	1,099.64	.36
6) Purchase Boston & Maine Land		6,700.00	2,000.00	8,700.00	500.00	8,200.00*
I. Pensions and Retirement						
1) State Veterans' Pension Bill		933.99		933.99	933.99	
2) Essex County Retirement Assessment		44,364.00		44,364.00	44,364.00	
J. Unclassified						
1) Liability & Compensation Insurance		21,027.00		21,027.00	21,027.00	
2) Group Health and Life Insurance		19,800.00	6,714.45	26,514.45	20,337.71	6,176.74
3) Ambulance Service		800.00	442.00	1,242.00	1,231.60	10.40

4) Memorial Day		500.00		500.00	220.64	279.36
5) Rental of American Legion Space		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
6) Printing Town Reports		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	
7) Merrimac Valley Planning Commission		849.00		849.00	495.05	353.95
8) Water in Town Buildings		1,406.00		1,406.00	1,198.06	207.94
9) Light in Town Buildings		14,630.64	481.79	15,112.43	15,112.43	
10) Renovating Town Hall Auditorium	5,197.53			5,197.53	1,362.27	3,835.26*
11) Bunting for Town Buildings			500.00	500.00	341.00	159.00
12) Historical Commission Expense	321.10	5,000.00		5,321.10	3,133.03	2,188.07*
13) Town Beautification Gardens Committee		900.00		900.00	866.82	33.18
14) Haverhill-Newburyport Mental Health Board		4,245.00		4,245.00	4,245.00	
15) Sales Tax Collected on Water Heater Rental		35.20	95.50	130.70	71.94	58.76*
2. Public Service Enterprises						
A. Light Department						
1) Salaries & Expense	9643684		511,462.18	607,899.02	525,187.66	82,711.36*
B. Water Department						
1) Manager's Salary		5,125.00		5,125.00	5,124.03	.97
2) Clerk's Salary		2,725.00		2,725.00	2,717.57	7.43
3) Wages		21,125.00		21,125.00	20,926.65	198.35
4) Expense		30,600.00		30,600.00	24,346.50	6,253.50
5) Stand Pipes	115.10			115.10	115.10	
6) Install Valve at Pumping Station	800.00			800.00	545.31	254.69*
7) Flushing Water Mains	4,000.00			4,000.00	3,457.40	542.60*
3. Cemeteries						
A. Wages		13,159.45		13,159.45	12,260.40	899.05
B. Trustees		150.00		150.00	150.00	
C. Expense		2,690.55		2,690.55	2,690.55	
D. Income from Cemetery Perpetual Care Trusts	3,446.63		5,421.13	8,867.76	3,591.93	5,275.83*
4. Interest						
A. On Maturing Debt						
1) Red Oak		17,220.00		17,220.00	17,220.00	
2) Brox		860.00		860.00	860.00	

	Balance July 1, 1975	Appropriated	Receipts Transters In or Out (-)	Total Available	Expenditures	Balance June 30, 1976
3) Waterwells		21,805.00		21,805.00	21,805.00	
4) Stand Pipes		6,557.50		6,557.50	6,557.50	
5) Water Meters			65.00	65.00	65.00	
B. On Light Department Consumer Deposit	1,319.21		276.25	1,595.46	13.80	1,581.66*
5. Municipal Indebtedness						
A. On Maturing Debt						
1) Red Oak		40,000.00		40,000.00	40,000.00	
2) Brox		20,000.00		20,000.00	20,000.00	
3) Waterwells		35,000.00		35,000.00	35,000.00	
4) Stand Pipes		15,000.00		15,000.00	15,000.00	
5) Water Meters			4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
6. State and County Assessments						
A. State						
1) Parks and Reservations	113.82		12,764.81	12,878.63	13,014.19	-135.56*
2) Motor Vehicle Excise Bill			412.50	412.50	412.50	
3) State Audit			4,357.12	4,357.12	4,357.12	
B. County						
1) Taxes	407.27		52,418.96	52,826.23	41,401.60	11,424.63*
7. Agency, Trust & Investment						
A. Agency						
1) Merrimac Valley Air Pollution Control District	57.80		196.61	254.41	261.34	-6.93*
2) Dog Licenses for County			631.45	631.45	249.35	382.10*
B. Trusts						
1) Cemetery Perpetual Care			2,840.00	2,840.00	2,840.00	
2) Various Library "Book" Trusts			108.44	108.44	108.44	
3) T. Hoyt Library Trust			1,477.46	1,477.46	1,477.46	
4) A. Wadleigh Trust			160.05	160.05	160.05	
5) Kimball Park Trust			281.05	281.05	281.05	
6) Post-War Rehabilitation			77.36	77.36	77.36	
7) Stabilization Fund		7,000.00	1,108.25	8,108.25	8,108.25	

8) Light Depreciation Fund		6,735.58	6,735.58	6,735.58	
9) Bonds for School Renovation		5.46	5.46	5.46	
7. C. Investment					
1) Certificates of Deposit	-100,000.00	230,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	
8. Refunds					
A. Taxes					
1) Real and Personal Property		1,750.46	1,750.46	,175.046	
2) Farm Animal Excise		68.80	68.80	68.80	
B. Motor Vehicle Excise		2,985.80	2,985.80	2,985.80	
C. Consumer Deposit	3,305.00	2,345.00	5,650.00	1,930.00	3,720.00*
9. Other unappropriated or inactive accounts (Unclassified)					
A. Tailings	230.90		230.90		230.90*
B. Cemetery					
1) Sale of Lots	1,825.00	-1,527.50	297.50		297.50*
2) Care, Improvements, Embellishment of Cemeteries	951.36	2,572.50	3,523.86		3,523.86*
3) Care, H. Robinson Lab	773.83	78.76	852.59		852.59*
C. Planning Board Update Master Plan		5,387.00	5,387.00		5,387.00*
D. Painting Town Hall Exterior	2,400.00		2,400.00		2,400.00*
E. Council on Aging Special Grants		7,900.00	7,900.00		7,900.00*
F. Engineering on Sewerage Study	8,000.00		8,000.00		8,000.00*
G. Highways					
1) Chapter 825, Section 1	12,614.00	-12,614.00			
2) Chapter 1120, Section 20	18,411.00	-18,411.00			
3) Reserve for Machinery (Revolving Fund)	2,447.67	-2,447.67			
9. H. Schools					
1) P.L. 874	236.00		236.00		236.00*
2) SPED - Chapter 766	10,714.38	9,172.62	19,887.00		19,887.00*
I. Interest on Tax Anticipation Loan	7,000.00		7,000.00		7,000.00
J. Tax Title Property - Repairs & Expend	50.00		50.00		50.00
K. Industrial Development Commission	1,219.15		1,219.15		1,219.15*
L. Brox Building Committee	300.00		300.00		300.00*
M. Town Government Committee	100.00		100.00		100.00*
N. Department of Public Works Committee	100.00		100.00		100.00*

	Balance July 1, 1975	Appropriated	Receipts Transfers In or Out (-)	Total Available	Expenditures	Balance, June 30, 1976
O. Writing Town History	6,456.85	5,000.00		11,456.85		11,456.85*
P. New Water Department Truck			4,723.25	4,723.25		4,723.25*
Q. Care, Improvement, Embellishment of Cemeteries	951.36		2,572.50	3,523.86		3,523.86*
R. Indian Head Part Fees			232.00	232.00		232.00
TOTALS June 30, 1976	$98,514.24	$2,394,207.22	$865,009.34	$3,357,730.80	$3,062,774.55	$294,956.25

*Unexpended balance carried into next fiscal year - all other balances transferred to Surplus Revenue.

Classification of Federal Sharing Appropriations and Expenditures Fiscal Year 1976

1. Departmental					
A. General Government					
1) Brox Building Renovation	10,555.70	55,351.49	65,907.19	62,461.65	3,445.54
B. Public Safety					
1) Police Department					
a) Police Communications System	4,666.64		4,666.64	3,523.12	1,143.52
b) Police Cruiser Repairs		800.00	800.00	800.00	
C. Highways					
1) New Highway Dump Truck		19,746.85	19,746.85	17,895.00	1,851.85
D. Public Assistance					
1) Council for the Aging	6,806.74	9,887.00	16,693.74	6,836.03	9,857.71
2. Other Inactive Accounts (Unclassified)					
A. Planning Board - Master Plan		1,613.00	1,613.00		1,613.00
B. New Police Cruiser		4,900.00	4,900.00		4,900.00
C. Police Department Equipment		1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
D. New Fire Department Truck		40,000.00	40,000.00		40,000.00
	$22,029.08	$133,298.34	$155,327.42	$91,515.80	$63,811.62

TRUST FUNDS
RECEIPTS, TRANSFERS, AND WITHDRAWALS
FISCAL YEAR 1976

	Balance July 1, 1975	Added	Withdrawn	Balance June 30, 1976
TRUST FUNDS IN CUSTODY OF TREASURER				
1) Various Library Book Trusts	4,211.61	3,425.50	3,737.11	3,900.00
2) Thomas Hoyt Library Trust	19,188.75	19,900.91	22,073.31	17,016.35
3) Albert Wadleigh Library Trust	2,484.95	2,160.05	2,066.14	2,578.86
4) Kimball Park Trusts	5,381.79	281.05	131.65	5,531.19
5) Cemetery Perpetual Care Trusts	93,680.62			
a) Clough		100.00		
b) G. Casazza		150.00		
c) Michel		40.00		
d) Knight		150.00		
e) Kelley		600.00		
f) Lloyd		150.00		
g) Bowen		150.00		
h) Dion		200.00		
i) Oxley		50.00		
j) Rand		200.00		
k) Sargent (Burton)		200.00		
l) MacDonald		150.00		
m) Ryan (Watson)		200.00		
n) Wentzel (Wentzel & Foster)		200.00		
o) Manter		150.00		
p) West		150.00		
		2,840.00		96,520.62
6) Harry Robinson Cemetery Trust	1,500.00			1,500.00
7) Post-War Rehabilitation	1,481.34	77.36	36.22	1,522.48
8) Stabilization Fund	14,363.94	8,108.25	129.94	22,351.25
9) Purchase School Renovation Bonds	105.02	5.46	2.56	107.92
TOTALS	142,398.02	36,798.58	28,167.93	151,028.67

	Balance July 1, 1975	Added	Withdrawn	Balance June 30, 1976
VARIOUS OTHER TRUSTS AND FUNDS				
1) Light Depreciation Fund	79,151.69	28,432.02		107,583.71
2) Water Meter Fund	8,774.25	16.00		
8788.25		2.00		
3) Merrimac Conservation Fund	2,975.70	111.63	2,000.00	1,087.33
4) Care, H. Robinson Lot	773.83	78.76		852.59
5) Reserve Fund		10,000.00	10,000.00	

Report of INDEBTEDNESS — FISCAL YEAR 1976

	Balance July 1, 1975	New Loans	Expended	Balance June 30, 1976
Red Oak School	430,000.00		40,000.00	390,000.00
Brox Building	20,000.00		20,000.00	
Water Wells	445,000.00		35,000.00	410,000.00
Water Meters	4,000.00		4,000.00	
Standpipes	115,000.00		15,000.00	100,000.00
School Decree		39,121.00		39,121.00
* Total Indebtedness	1,014,000.00	39,121.00	114,000.00	939,121.00

* In Addition, the Town incurred debt totaling $1,24.50 for unpaid bills for which approval to pay will be sought in the next fiscal year.

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
FINAL TRIAL BALANCE
June 30, 1976

ACCOUNTS		DEBITS	CREDITS
Cash		646,429.56	
Special Cash Revenue Sharing		64,701.42	
Cash Light Depreciation		107,583.71	
Petty Cash Advance		410.00	
Tailings			230.90
[1]Taxes:			
Personal, 1976	1,124.30		
Personal, 1975	2,251.86		
Personal, 1974	480.41		
Personal, 1973-74	976.41		
Real, 1976	89,698.31		
Real, 1975	37,187.11		
Real, 1974	(13,782.41)		
Real, 1973	(2,606.97)	115,329.02	
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excises:			
1976	62,746.14		
1975	12,116.80		
1974	8,535.66		
1973	5,530.56		
1972	968.92		
1971	197.99		
1970	310.88	90,406.95	
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise Revenue			90,406.95

ACCOUNTS	DEBITS		CREDITS
[1]Farm Animal Excise:			
1976	140.01		
1975	135.70		
1974	(1.50)		
1973	4.50	278.71	
Farm Animal Excise Revenue			
		278.71	
Overlay 1976	13,374.27		
Overlay 1974			9,826.20
Overlay 1973			812.41
Overlay 1972			9.28
Overlay Surplus			1,582.10
Tax Titles		5,132.94	
Tax Possessions		7,912.40	
Taxes in Litigation		3,853.89	
Tax Title Revenue			13,045.34
Special Tax Revenue			3,853.89
Departmental Accounts Receivable		317.04	
Departmental Revenue			317.04
Light Department Accounts Receivable:			
Light	15,755.58		
General Services	17,753.48		
Miscellaneous	2,911.24	36,420.30	
Light Department Revenue			36,420.30

[1]Water Department Accounts Receivable:			
Rates	5,360.88		
Miscellaneous	3,703.21		
Meter Rental	58.00		
Liens, 1976	3,488.74		
Liens, 1975	488.37		
Liens, 1974	(422.82)	12,680.38	
Water Department Revenue			12,680.38
Aid to Highway Accounts Receivable:			
State	34,468.86		
County	5,222.00	39,690.86	
State and County Aid to Highway Revenue			39,690.86
State and County Assessments:			
State Parks and Reservations	135.56		
Merrimac Valley Air Pollution Dist.	6.93		
County Taxes			11,424.63
Special Education — Chapter 766			19,887.00
Consumer Report			3,720.00
Sales Water Meter Fund			2.00
Dog Fees			382.10
Library Trusts Expense Account			177.85

ACCOUNTS	DEBITS	CREDITS
Cemetery Trusts Expense Account		5,275.83
School Lunch		8,256.31
Sale of Cemetery Lots		297.50
Loans Authorized	131,000.00	
Loans Authorized but Unissued		131,000.00
Appropriations, General 1976 & Non-Rev.		167,214.73
Appropriations, Revenue Sharing:		
Planning Board	1,613.00	
Police Communication System	1,143.52	
Police Cruiser	4,900.00	
Police Department Equipment	1,000.00	
Fire Department Truck	40,000.00	
Council for the Aging	9,857.71	
Highway Dump Truck	1,851.85	
Brox Building Renovation	3,445.54	63,811.62
Unappropriated Revenue Sharing		889.80
Revenue, 1977	2,161,770.45	
Appropriation Control, 1977		2365971.77
[2]Surplus Revenue		341,916.42
Light Depreciation Fund		107583.71
Reserve for Petty Cash		410.00

Net Funded and Fixed Debt	939,121.00		
School Judgement Decree		39,121.00	
Red Oak School		390,000.00	
Water Wells		410,000.00	
Standpipes		100,000.00	939,121.00
Trust Funds in Custody of Treasurer	151,028.67		
Detailed Trust Funds:			
Various Library Trusts		3,900.00	
T. Hoyt Library Fund		17,016.35	
Wadleigh Library Trust		2,578.86	
Kimball Park Trusts		5,531.19	
Cemetery Perpetual Care		96,520.62	
Cemetery Trusts		1,500.00	
Post-War Rehabilitation		1,522.48	
Stabilization Fund		22,351.25	
Purchase Bonds for School Renovation		107.92	151,028.67
		4,527,584.06	4,527,584.06

FOOTNOTES

[1]Credit balances in various tax and receivable accounts are due to bookkeeping errors during the change of Fiscal Years from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 to July 1 - Jun. 30. Errors will be corrected in the next Fiscal Year.

[2]All appropriations from "Free Cash" voted at the Annual Town Meeting have been recorded and are included in June 30, 1976 balances.

Prepared by:

Carl J. Walden
Town Accountant
Merrimac, Mass. 01860

Mr. Gordon A. McGill
Director of Accounts
Department of Corporations and Taxation
Boston, Massachusetts

Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, I have made an audit of the books and accounts of the town of Merrimac for the period from January 1, 1973 to June 18, 1974, and report thereon as follows:

The financial transactions, as recorded on the books of the several departments receiving or disbursing money for the town or committing bills for collection, were examined and checked with the books of the town accountant and the town treasurer.

The books and accounts of the town accountant were examined. The receipts, as recorded, were checked with the treasurer's books and with the records of the several departments collecting money for the town, while the payments were checked with the treasury warrants and the books of the treasurer.

The appropriations, transfers, and loan authorizations, as recorded on the town clerk's records of town meetings, as well as the transfers from the reserve fund authorized by the finance committee, were checked with the town accountant's ledger. The ledger accounts were analyzed, the necessary adjusting entries resulting from the audit were made, and a balance sheet, which is appended to this report, was prepared showing the financial condition of the town as of June 18, 1974.

The books and accounts of the town treasurer were examined and checked. The receipts, as recorded, were compared with the records of the several departments collecting money for the town and with other sources from which money was paid into the town treasury, while the payments were checked with the warrants of the selectmen authorizing the disbursement of town funds. The case balance on June 18, 1974 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balances with statements furnished by the banks of deposit, by actual count of the cash in the office, by verification of the certificates of deposit, and by inspection of the savings and cooperative bank books.

The Federal Revenue Sharing Funds were examined and checked. The funds received from the Federal government were listed, the income was proved, and the appropriations were checked with the town clerk's record of town meetings. The payments were compared with the selectmen's warrants authorizing the disbursement of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds and with the town accountant's records. The cash balance on June 18, 1974 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balance with a statement furnished by the bank of deposit, and by listing the cooperative bank books.

The records of tax titles and tax possessions held by the town were examined and checked in detail. The amounts transferred to the tax title account were compared with the collector's records, the recorded foreclosures and abatements were verified, the recorded redemptions and sales of tax possessions were checked with the treasurer's cash book, and the tax titles and tax possessions on hand June 18, 1974 were listed, reconciled with the town accountant's ledger, and checked with the records at the Registry of Deeds.

The savings bank books and securities representing the investment of the trust and investment funds in the custody of the town treasurer were examined and listed. The income was proved, and all transactions were verified and compared with the treasurer's and the town accountant's records.

The records of payroll deductions on account of Federal and State taxes were examined and compared with the town accountant's ledger controls.

It is recommended that the practice of making direct payments to the various agencies on account of payroll deductions withheld be discontinued. The payroll deductions for Federal and State taxes, the county retirement system, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and group insurance should be recorded as a receipt on the treasurer's books and payments to the various agencies should be made on duly approved warrant, such financial transactions being reflected on the town accountant's ledger.

The reported payments on account of maturing debt and interest were compared with the amounts falling due and checked with the cancelled securities on file. The unpaid coupons on June 18, 1974 were listed and reconciled with the balance as shown by a statement furnished by the bank of deposit.

The books and accounts of the tax collector were examined and checked in detail. The taxes and excise outstanding January 1, 1973, as well as all subsequent commitment lists, were audited and compared with the warrants issued for their collection. The recorded collections were checked with the payments to the treasurer, the abatements, as recorded, were proved with the assessors' records of abatements granted, the transfers to the tax title account were checked with the treasurer's records of tax titles held by the town, and the outstanding accounts were listed and proved with the town accountant's ledger controls.

The books and accounts of the municipal light and water departments were examined and checked. The records of charges were analyzed, the receipts, as recorded, were checked with the payments to the treasurer and with the accountant's books, the discounts were checked with the departmental records of discounts granted, and the outstanding accounts were listed and proved with the accountant's ledger.

Verification of the outstanding tax, excise, departmental, municipal light, and water accounts was made by mailing notices to a number of persons whose names appeared on the books as owing money to the town, and from the replies thereto it appears that the accounts, as listed, are correct.

The records of departmental cash collections by the selectmen and the town clerk, as well as by the police, health, school, library, and cemetery departments, and by all other departments in which money was collected for the town, were examined and checked. The payments to the State and to the town treasurer were verified and the cash on hand in the several departments, including petty cash advances, was proved by actual count.

The surety bonds on file for the several town officials for the faithful performance of their duties were examined and found to be in proper form.

Appended to this report, in addition to a balance sheet, are tables showing reconciliations of the treasurer's and the town clerk's cash, summaries of the tax, excise, tax title, tax possession, and departmental accounts, together with schedules showing the condition and transactions of the trust and investment funds.

For the cooperation extended by all officials during the progress of the audit, I wish, on behalf of my assistants and for myself, to express appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT M. CROSBY

Assistant Chief of Bureau

REPORT OF THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT
January 1, 1976 - December 31, 1976

OPERATION STATEMENT

OPERATING REVENUES:		
Sale of Electricity		
Residential	383,798.06	
General Service	116,045.90	
Municipal Street Lights	14,127.38	
Town Buildings	15,611.36	
Outdoor Lighting	6,977.50	
OTHER REVENUES:		
Forfeited Discounts	11,288.80	
Rentals	2,386.00	
Interest	6,369.92	
TOTAL REVENUES		556,604.92
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Purchased Power	393,365.62	
Distribution Operation	14,270.55	
Distribution Maintenance	23,705.27	
Meter Reading	3,293.65	
Customer Records and Collection Expenses	18,764.72	
Uncollectible Accounts	19,913.76	
Manager Salary	9,384.00	
Other General Salaries	1,092.85	
Office Supplies and Expenses	1,369.26	
Outside Service Employed	3,636.91	
Property Insurance	1,234.67	
Inquires and Damage	3,705.00	
Transportation Expense	8,163.81	
Miscellaneous General Expenses	1,807.36	
Rents	122.68	
Maintenance General Plant	223.26	
Depreciation	20,313.71	
Interest (Customer's Deposits)	70.20	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		524,347.28
NET INCOME		32,257.64
PAID TO TOWN IN LIEU OF TAXES		35,000.00

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	
Plant and Property at Cost	700,399.20

Accumulated Depreciation	259,485.60	440,913.60
Cash for Operations		61,122.46
Cash for Improvements to System		119,140.99
Special Deposits		3,820.00
Accounts Receivable		13,330.27
Materials and Supplies		18,646.66
TOTAL ASSETS		656,973.98
LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH		
Accounts Payable		52,708.07
Customer's Deposits		3,820.00
Accrued Liabilities		1,475.50
Contributions In Aid of Construction		1,595.64
NET WORTH		597,374.77
TOTAL LIABILITIES		656,973.98

REPORT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT
January 1, 1976 - December 31, 1976

COLLECTIONS		
Water Revenues	107,670.22	
Services	2,119.52	
Miscellaneous	1,217.48	
Total Collected		111,007.22
APPROPRIATIONS: (1/1/76-6/30/77)		
Regular		85,600.00
EXPENDED: (1/1/76-12/31/76)		
Manager's Salary	4,692.00	
Office Salaries	2,719.17	
Wages	20,483.98	
Engineering Counsel	122.90	
Fuel Purchased	1,085.57	
Power Purchased	9,258.85	
Station Supplies and Expenses	694.84	
Shanacore	927.40	
Office Supplies and Expenses	2,365.32	
Taxes	482.80	
Transportation Expense	1,228.81	
Tools	200.02	
Materials and Supplies	7,215.49	
Hydrants	2,700.64	
Miscellaneous	111.80	
Total Expenditures		54,289.59
Unexpended at December 31, 1976		31,310.41

WATER METER RENTAL FUND

Balance January 1, 1976	4,833.24	
Collected During 1976	4.00	
Expended During 1976		
New Chevrolet Van	4,723.25	
1975 Interest Transferred To:		
General Fund	113.99	
Balance December 31, 1976		0.00

SPECIAL TOWN APPROPRIATIONS

Appropriation — Install Valves	800.00
Expended During 1975	545.31
Unexpended — December 31, 1976	254.69
Appropriation — Flushing Water Mains	4,000.00
Expended During 1976	3,457.40
Unexpended — December 31, 1976	542.60
Appropriation — New Truck	4,723.25
Expended During 1976	4,654.68
Unexpended — December 31, 1976	68.57

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Merrimac Council on Aging continues to offer a comprehensive program for its senior citizens. Services offered include: Information and referral, health services, transportation, home visits and recreational and educational programs.

Mrs. Inez Lund continues to serve as Director of the Council on Aging and is available to all senior citizens at the council office, 19 Church Street, which is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All senior citizens are invited to call or visit the office and learn of these programs and services.

Mrs. Ann Duffy serves as a senior aide and is also available at the office. Students of Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School and participants of the Manpower Training Program have used the office as a work experience. Senior citizens also serve as volunteers in the office and provide transportation and serve as members of the Senior Advisory Committee.

The Senior Advisory Committee continues to plan programs and social activities for all senior citizens.

The Council office serves as a center of coordination for area agencies, including the Merrimack Valley Elder Services, Inc., North East Regional Community Action Commission, The American Red Cross, American Cancer Society and Northern Essex Community College, etc.

Over the past year senior citizen contacts have risen from 65% of the senior population to 75%. Response to all services and programs has been remarkable, indicating the need for a Senior Center. The Council has worked over the past year to obtain federal funding and has received a grant under Title V of the Older Americans Act. These funds will be used to complete renovations of the former fire station on School Street.

The Council is hopeful that the multi-purpose Senior Center will improve both the quantity and quality of services offered to Merrimac's senior population.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Zacharis
Chairperson

Merrimac Council on Aging

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES

March 19, 1977

The Honorable Board of Selectmen
Merrimac, MA 01860

Submitted herewith is my annual report for the year 1976-77.

As Veterans' Service Officer the accomplishments have been many as follows: Securing compensation, pensions, hospitalization, outpatient treatment, additional pension for the house-bound, educational benefits, G.I. loans, insurance, affidavits medical records, annual income questionnaires, tax exemptions, burial allowances, power of attorneys, certificates of service, and many letters have been drafted and typed for veterans and their dependents. Grave markers and flags were distributed as required.

As Veterans' Agent I have taken applications for benefits, allowed justified payments, issued warrants, issued food orders, obtained authorizations and reimbursements, and maintained records. I have filed required reports with the Commissioner of Veterans' Services, Boston, Mass.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen and other Town Departments for their cooperation this past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Harrison S. DeLong
Director of Veterans Services

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Trustees of Merrimac Public Library submit their 1976 report, the one hundredth annual report to the Town.

During Merrimac's centennial year the Library held several programs as its part in the town's celebrations. Through the award of a federal grant, LSCA Title I, administered by the Mass. Bureau of Library Extension, a demonstration program, "Experiment In Colonial Living", was held for adults. For children, two performances were given by a professional puppet troupe, "The Yankee Doodles". At Merri Village, the library staff presented a film program, "Bicentennial America", and a slide show of the Merrimac centennial parade and ball. To encourage the wearing of historical costumes at the centennial events, the library staff designed and displayed costumes, using the collection of pamphlets and books available at the Library. Part of the Library's historical collection of items of Merrimac interest were loaned to the town museum for display, and many were exhibited in the library.

A daily summer program for children, "Summer Celebrations", was offered with the help of CETA employees, and ranged from pyjama parties for preschoolers to crafts, games, stories and films for the school age children. Throughout the year weekly library visits for school classes, preschoolers and their parents, Merrimac Child Care Center, and Teloca, were scheduled. Holidays and school vacations were marked by special events.

A total of 27,576 items were borrowed from the Library, an increase of 6% over the previous year's circulation. Added to the collection of books and recordings were 1,341 items, of which 205 were donated by 25 donors. The Library borrowed 2,002 items from Eastern Mass. Regional Library System. Nearly 2,600 items were loaned by the Library to local groups: North Shore Community Club, Merri Village, child care and school groups. Book fines were deposited with the Town Treasurer in the amount of $505.88. Audiovisual materials and equipment were purchased through a federal grant, LSCA Title I.

Early in the year, emergency repairs were required when the library chimney developed large cracks, and later on, the lawns were reseeded, both provided by the Thomas H. Hoyt Fund. Mrs. Charlotte P. Gulezian, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, planted flower beds which added a pleasant note of color to the Library grounds for many weeks.

The Trustees and staff wish to thank the many donors of books and periodicals, people who helped with the children's programs, and exhibitors of the 31 displays in the library during the year, for their time and effort in behalf of better library service for Merrimac.

Respectfully submitted,

Eida V. Jervey, Chairman
Charlotte P. Gulezian, Secretary
Eleanor Hope-McCarthy
Mary Parry
Nathan Tufts, Jr.
Elizabeth Pittman

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

CIRCULATION	ADULT	JUVENILE	TOTAL
Books & A-V	18,105	9,411	27,576
REGISTRATIONS	190	113	303
ACQUISITIONS	893	448	1,341
INVENTORY			
Books	9,494	3,642	13,136
A-V	415	290	705
LOANS TO:			
N. Shore Comm. C.	916	—	916
MerriVillage	664	—	664
Merr. Child Care	—	271	271
Teloca	—	128	129
Schools	—	598	598
Total	1,580	997	2,577
LOANS FORM:			
Bookmobile	1,089	473	1,562
Interlibrary Loan	294	45	339
Films	2	99	101
Total	1,385	617	2,002
DEPOSITS — FINES	$505.88		
DONORS — 25			
EXHIBITS — 31			
EVENTS — number of sessions			
Craft Classes	30	—	30
Films	2	32	34
Story hours	—	52	52
Class visits	—	37	37
Library club	—	10	10
Merr. Child Care	—	34	34
Teloca	—	60	60
Baby sitting course	—	6	6
Summer children's prog.	—	36	36
Special events	2	21	23
Comm. group meetings	12	—	12

REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen

The Merrimac Housing Authority had a very good year of operation. The Board met 7 times in regular sessions and 4 times in special session. Our fine facilities are fully occupied at all times.

At a Special Town Meeting held October 31, 1975, the Authority received approval for construction of additional Housing For The Elderly. To date no such action has been taken due to the lack of funds. The Authority is presently in the process of trying to get funds through the Farmer's Home Administration, and fully expects to be funded; and construction will commence at the earliest possible date.

The Authority recognizes the need for housing assistance for low income families, and has applied for 25 slots of Federal Section 8 Housing. This program consists of subsidizing low income families in private apartments providing that the landlord is willing to comply with the minimal housing code requirements, and willing to cooperate with the Housing Authority.

The Authority wishes to thank all Town Officials for their excellent cooperation. We also thank the Council For The Aging and any other groups that work and help the elderly. The Authority cordially invites any citizens of Merrimac experiencing housing problems, and we will do our utmost to lend assistance to any qualified family or individual.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Stuart, Executive Director
William D. Vance, Chairman
Alexander M. Sullivan, Vice-Chairman
Dorothy E. Olson, Treasurer (State Rep.)
George E. Lucy, Vice-Treasurer
William H. Whiting, Member-at-Large

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Merrimac Cemetery Department submit the following report for 1976: Trustees organized as follows: Harold Arbour Chairman; Merrill B. Smith, Sr., Clerk; Alva W. Clark, Secretary.

A short piece of hot top road was put in at the top of the hill in Locust Grove Cemetery and we hope to continue the work on other roads during the coming year.

Work in all cemeteries proceeded as usual and the three cemeteries were in excellent condition for the Memorial weekend.

We wish to thank the Highway Department for their assistance during the year. Charlie Haynes has done his usual good job of keeping

the cemetery in excellent condition during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Arbour, Chairman
Merrill B. Smith, Clerk
Alva W. Clark, Secretary

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

This was a year of achievement and progress in programs of interest to your Commission, and we hope to you as citizens of the community.

During the year a Conservation/Recreation Plan was completed by the Chairman, and presented to the Commission, Selectmen, and other Boards for comment. This document gathers information about the Town's environmental problems and opportunities, sets some goals, and qualified Merrimac for Self-Help funding. It was considered by the Growth Policy Committee and the Master Planners in assessing and preserving the rural character of the community.

The Town took title to the nearly two-mile strip of rail-road land, which was officially named the Jay McLaren Trail at Town Meeting. This 80 foot right-of-way is an important link in the Greenbelt that we hope will someday stretch from the Merrimack to the N.H. line and the Forest. According to plan, $4000. was received by the Town Treasurer from the Div. of Conservation Services, representing half the land cost.

We worked to formulate and support a fair and strict earth removal law. It was voted overwhelmingly at last Town Meeting, and we are now concerned about enforcement to prevent further deterioration of land and vegetation.

With the help of CETA person, John Benson, we have started a program of environmental education in the schools and Library focused on the natural and aesthetic resources of the Town Forest. John has mapped, explored, and forested on this site, improving woods, paths and fire-lanes, and starting a free firewood program. An informative brochure is planned to help everyone enjoy this property and the McLaren Trail. We funded a professional woodland study and plans from it will be carried out by the Forest Committee.

We sponsored an evening meeting with Amesbury Con Comm and other officials on the important subject of Lake Attitash, thus stating our concern over gradually declining water quality and water level problems. More must be done in '77-'78.

A major expense (and hassle) for the Commission concerned a proposed housing development, part of which would interfere seriously with Wetlands of Birch-meadow road. Because of local down-

stream flooding problems, which the filling of Wetlands would aggravate, we took legal action against the developer and the Mass. Dept. of Environmental Quality Engineering, which wanted to permit a flood impoundment dike. (Which the Town would have to maintain) The outcome of this case is still in doubt, but we may appeal if we lose, and we will continue to oppose development of wetlands or septic system installations which would threaten streams or ponds. We are supported in this case by the Board of Selectmen, Health, and a citizens group who helped with legal costs.

Probably the most important issue this year, as far as protecting the future environmental quality of life in Merrimac, is adoption and implementation of Merrimac's new Master Plan. As well as allowing for and encouraging selective industry and commercial development, the document sets out basic environmental guidelines, and suggests important procedures for better land use. The Commission asks all residents to look at one of the 150 copies to be made available. While it can be modified, it is an excellent reference for Merrimac Town officials and tax-payers. It should be ratified and implemented in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Tufts, Jr., Chairman
Ronald Shaw
Robert Hanks
Parker McLaren
Robert Topitzer
Henry Lay

REPORT OF THE PLAYGROUND COMMISSION

To the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac
Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Playground Commission enjoyed a very successful year under the Chairmanship of George Stevens assisted by Robert Randall, Chairman of Indian Head Park Activity, Leon Smith, William Rickford and Michael McLaughlin.

All projects undertaken for the year were completed included are the recreation areas and Indian Head Park.

Our supervised play program opened the second Monday in July, and continued for a period of six weeks. Registration and attendance were reported very good. This covers children from six to fifteen years of age. The complete program was under the supervision of Bruce Christie, assisted by Michael Twist, Karen Richardson and Karen Chalifoure. The Commission wishes to thank these people for

an excellent job. We also wish to thank the Merrimac Lions Club for its help and generosity.

Respectfully submitted,

George Stevens, Chairman
William Bickford
Robert Randall
Leon Smith
Michael McLaughlin

REPORT OF THE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Having successfully executed a fully and diversified list of events to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the incorporattion of the Town of Merrimac, the Centennial Commission takes this opportunity to give thanks and recognition to those who helped with the celebration. We also present herein our financial report.

The kick-off ecumenical church service was held Sunday, April 11, 1976, at Pilgrim Congregational Church and was attended by over 300 people. An excellent hour long program was arranged by the following committee: Mary Parry, Walter Calnan, representing the Church of the Nativity; Doris Bachelder, C. G. Lauckner (of West Newbury), representing the United Methodist Church; and Marie Sutherland, William Whiting, representing the Pilgrim Congregational Church. The participating ministers were Rev. Francis Ready, Rev. Ellsworth D. Comins, Jr., and Rev. Paul L. Higgins who was also the principal speaker. Refreshments were prepared by many townspeople and served by a committee composed of Ellen Turner, Pearl Desmarais, and June Whitcomb.

The Town Hall Museum was opened to the public after the ecumenical church service. The long and hard work of the museum committee was enjoyed by a group of over 500 people that afternoon. The members of the museum committee were: Walter Perkins, chairman; Betty Emery, vice-chairman; David Hoyt, in charge of photography; George Mutti, Clair Mutti, and Marion Calnan were in charge of several departments; Frederick E. Sweetsir, Myrna Chernick, Olive West, Irene Hamel, Claire Maguire, and Marie Sutherland all helped at different times in many ways. After the initial opening, the Centennial Commission kept the Merrimac Museum open to the public on Sunday afternoons. Public interest in the Museum brought about a vote at the last annual town meeting to perpetuate its existence. Consequently, steps are being taken to incorporate an organization to fulfill this purpose.

An enthusiastic audience attended the "Miss Merrimac" contest conducted on Saturday evening, April 24, 1976, at the Grange Hall by a committee from the Merri Players. The judges were Miss Margaret

Rice (of Amesbury), Mrs. C. Lester Sweeney (of Merrimac), and Mrs. Ronald Guilbert (of Haverhill) and their choice for ''Miss Merrimac 1876'' from a variety of costumed entrants was Miss Andrea Jean Gilmore, with Miss Michele Lavalley as first runner up. The master of ceremonies was Parker McLaren and the managing committee consisted of Bernard Russell, Hazel Packard, Judy Silvia, Sharon McCarron, Barbara McLaren, and Thelma Gibbs.

The musical ''Yankee Doodle Minstrels'' was sponsored by the Santa Parade Committee and presented to very receptive audiences on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, April 30, May 1, 2, 1976. A special word of thanks must go to Leo Joubert who wrote and directed the entire program. All of the more than fifty people associated with the production are to be congratulated for a fine job. The proceeds from the event were gratefully received by the Centennial Commission.

The Merrimac Lions Club sponsored an athletic field day for the town's youth on Saturday, May 8, 1976 at the Locust Street ball grounds. Many youngsters competed in the full morning of friendly competition and several commented that the event should become an annual custom. The following Lions were members of the supervising committee: William Vance, Roland Morin, Edward Madden, Richard Gilmore, Richard Gallagher, Raymond Ferrari, Leo Joubert, and James Parry.

The elementary schools also participated in the centennial celebrations. The Red Oak Hill School had an old fashioned picnic and field day scheduled for Friday, May 21, 1976. The picnic was held on that date but because of inclement weather the field day was postponed until Friday, June 18, 1976. The Donaghue School created a very interesting and informative historical booklet titled *Areas of Interest in Merrimac* (A.I.M.). Both schools had floats in the parade, made quilts, and several projects and activities which celebrated the centennial of the town and the bicentennial of the nation. All of the teachers, principals, and students of both schools are to be commended for their time and dedication to these projects.

The memorable centennial ball commenced on Saturday evening, June 5, 1976, at Northern Essex Community College. The costumed attendants were an amicable mixture of old and new residents gathered together for a fun filled evening of food, entertainment, and dancing. Accolades for this very successful evening must go to the centennial ball committee: Olive E. West, chairman; Myrna Chernick; Jerry David; Stella Franklin; and Dorothy Lumsden. The centennial ball committee would also like to thank Tommy Tucker for his able assistance in obtaining Lester Smith's orchestra and the live entertainment which contributed greatly to the evening's pleasure.

The centennial carriage drive was held under cloudy skies, but without rains, on Sunday afternoon, June 6, 1976. The event was sponsored jointly by the New England Region/Carriage Association of

America and the Merrimac Centennial Commission. The organizing committee was composed of: Jeffrey W. Hoyt, M.C.C.; Mrs. Nathaniel Pulsifer, N.E.R./C.A.A.; Mrs. Thomas Dooley, Jr., N.E.R./C.A.A.; and Mr. Jerry T. Ballantine, N.E.R./C.A.A. Scores of people gathered on the shores of lake Attitash to observe the ring competitions. More than 500 spectators lined the streets of Merrimacport to view the picturesque carriages in the marathon course. Many Merrimac residents were gratified to see that several of the entrants were Merrimac-made carriages.

In conjunction with the centennial celebration a carnival was held in Waterhouse's field on Friday and Saturday evening, June 11 and 12, 1976. The event was sponsored by the Merrimac Boy's Athletic Association under the leadership of Ed Madden and Bob Randall. The Fire Department and Lions Club were particularly helpful by managing some of the booths. The winners of the Saturday night beard growing contest were Henry Kelly for the fullest beard and A. Bruce McGregor for the most original. The beard judges were Anna (Sargent) Russell, Joseph Gosselin, and Alexander M. Sullivan. The centennial quilt was also raffled and was won by Irene Hamel of Merrimac.

Another highlight of the celebration was the colorful pagentry of the large and impressive centennial parade held on Saturday afternoon, June 12, 1976. It was a tremendous undertaking to arrange for and organize all the floats, antique cars, equestrian teams, and more than 70 marching units. The newspaper estimated that 10,000 people viewed this largest parade in the history of Merrimac. All should be appreciative of the excellent job performed by the centennial parade committee: Merrill B. Smith, Sr., and Roy Keiser, co-chairmen; Alberta Peavey, secretary; Lois Spencer, treasurer; Patricia and Tom Jordan, business co-ordinators; Richard Emery, special features; Natalie Christie, historian; James Christie, reviewing stand announcer; Larry Cossar and Frederick E. Sweetsir, antique cars. The parade co-ordinators were led by Harold Hume and included Bernard Hume, Clifton Bixby, James Hume, Brian Peavey, Tony Sokolowski, William Whiting, Raymond Bastarache, Alva Clark and Ralph Spencer. All the town departments as well as many other people too numerous to mention gave of their time and money to assist in this project.

Beyond the more than 60 individuals who worked in various ways on the centennial quilts, special mention must be made of Lillian Burgener, Dorothy Lumsden, Dorothy Condon and Charlotte McCarron for assisting in the assembly of the two quilts. The suggestion to make two quilts — one to raffle and one to keep in the museum — was that of Mrs. Joseph Dugas. Mrs. Dugas also worked on the quilts and managed the raffle ticket sales.

In addition to specific committee workers, the Centennial Commission wishes to recognize several other individuals. James Glidden gave much free time to repair the wall clock in the Town Hall auditorium; Mrs. Sarah Anne (Pease) Kierstead hooked a very handsome rug with

the town seal on it for the museum; John Gilchrist helped in many ways, especially with free printing; Louis Bibeau operated the Electric Department truck to lift a carriage and sleigh into the museum; Milton Smith generously donated the use of one of his buses to transport Merrimac's older citizens to their special section to view the parade; Mary F. Ryan gratuitously and cheerfully typed the final draft of the historic trail guide booklet; Ellen Turner, Madeleine Lay, and Dorothy Robinson made items to be raffled; and last, but certainly not least, Frederick E. Sweetsir and Richard Gilmore were always there whenever needed.

At almost every event the men and equipment of the Police Department, Highway Department, and Fire Department (especially the E. M. T. unit) were in demand and each gave of their services without hesitation. We thank them all for their fine cooperation.

Furthermore, we wish to thank all of the citizens of Merrimac for their support and participation in helping to make Merrimac's centennial celebration an occasion to be proud of for the next 100 years.

It should be noted that publication of the *History of Merrimac* was postponed in order to make full use of the valuable historical materials collected for over 50 years by Mr. Alvin F. Heath and recently made available by his heirs. Old photographs, catalogued newspaper clippings spanning 70 years, documents, as well as the writings of Mr. Heath comprise this treasure chest of Merrimac history. A separate room in the Merrimac Museum is being set aside for these materials and adequate fire and theft protection provided for their safe keeping. Although the delay in publication will disappoint many, a fuller and richer history of Merrimac will be the consequence.

In presenting our financial report the Centennial Commission would like to point out that several of these accounts are unfinished and monies continue to be collected from the sale of trail guide booklets, cups and saucers, maps, commemorative coins, etc.

MERRIMAC CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Receipts and Expenses to 2-21-77

ACCOUNT	RECEIPTS	EXPENSES	BALANCES
Trail Booklets	1,011.00	Cost pd. from out of Town Appropriation (1,595.00)	1,011.00
Coins—from Coin Treas. to date	8,670.44	Pd. to Robbins Co. 8,520.26 Less am't pd. from Town Appropriation (1,086.00)	1,236.18

Balance in Coin Treas. Acct. incl. $87.70 Accumulated Interest		7,434.26	
	1,445.67		1,445.67
Mugs & Plates	786.50	742.00	44.50
Museum	129.01	1,092.47	(963.46)
Calendars	61.00	57.50	3.50
Aerial Photos	107.00	470.50	(363.50)
Coin Banks	410.40	25.04	385.36
Olde Merrimac Days	2,068.39 (net)	-----	2,068.39
Merri-Players Dance & Play	643.77	-----	643.77
Slide Lectures	953.00	179.72	773.28
Maps	282.50	255.33	27.17
Trivets	500.00	260.00	240.00
Centennial Quilts	773.00	125.46	647.54
House Markers	263.00	1,910.00	(1,647.00)
Centennial Ball	2,881.77	2,468.60	413.17
Parade & Fireworks	4,288.00	6,978.00	(2,690.00)

(1,500.00 of receipts from Town Appropriation)
(2,788.00 of receipts from Santa Parade Comm)

MERRIMAC CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Receipts and Expenses to 2-21-77

ACCOUNT	RECEIPTS	EXPENSES	BALANCES
Miscellaneous Receipts and Unclassified Expenses			
From Gifts to 1-1-76	301.21		
From Gifts from Lions Club	25.00		
BiCentennial Flag Pins	47.00		
Carnival Grab Bags	30.30		
Bay Bank Acct. Interest	61.92		
	465.43		
Balance Brought Forward 1-1-76		212.58	
Historical Trail Markers		805.60	
Pentucket Calendar		2.00	
Visitors Register		9.44	
Box Rental (P.O.)		7.50	
Ecumenical Service Refreshments		14.76	
Picnic Drive 5.45			
25.00		30.45	
Merri-Players (Queen Contest)		49.23	
Parade Float		40.00	

Poster Board		2.17	
Gazette Ad.		6.83	
Street Banner		75.00	
		1,255.56	(790.13)
Interest on Savings Account #17021	96.78	-----	96.78
	25,836.66	23,254.44	2,582.22

Balance Checking Acct. BayBank Merrimack Valley	657.89
Merrimac Savings Bank—PassBook #17021	478.66
Merrimac Savings Bank—Coin Account	1,445.67
TOTAL	2,582.22

Respectfully Submitted

Kenneth G. Fowle, Treasurer
Merrimac Centennial Commission

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Calnan, Chairman
Dorothy Condon, Secretary
Kenneth Fowle, Treasurer
Jeffrey W. Hoyt
Charlotte McCarron
Frederick N. Sweetsir, M.D.
Harold M. Waterhouse, Sr.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors respectfully submit the following report for the year 1976-77. The Board was organized as follows:

Edmond L. Hamel, Chairman
Edward R. Davis, Clerk
J. Duncan How, Member
Mildred D. Shelley, Secretary

On April 3rd Mrs. Jerry Potter, C.E.T.A. assistant terminated herself with the program due to physical disability. Mr. Vern Mowrey was hired under the C.E.T.A. work program to continue the work on the equalization program. During the summer he also planned and engineered the renovation of the new assessors office at 6 School Street. He left the program September 13th for more permanent employment. Miss Marie Buzzell was sent to us under the Community Action of Greater Haverhill for the summer. She also did a lot of work to prepare the new office. On September 24th Mr. Henry Seymour was hired under the C.E.T.A. work program to assist the assessors on the equalization program.

The big event was moving day in August when John Benson and his conservation crew of young people assisted us in safely moving all of our equipment to a beautiful new office. We would like to thank all departments who made this possible, and all those who worked on this project.

The following is a recapitulation of appropriations and estimated receipts of the Town, which was used in computing the Fiscal 1977 tax rate of $80.75 for the tax period July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977.

I. TAX RATE SUMMARY

1.	Gross Amount to be raised (from Part VI)		$2,664,409.39
2.	Estimated Receipts and Available Funds		1,362,356.62
3.	Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation		1,302,052.77
4.	Real Property Valuations	15,614,375.00	
5.	Personal Property Valuations	510,095.00	
6.	Total Property Valuations	16,124,470.00	
7.	Tax Rate		80.75
8.	Real Property Tax		1,260,862.34
9.	Personal Property Tax		41,190.43
10.	Total Taxes levied on property		1,302,052.77
	Water Liens		2,936.65
TOTAL COMMITMENTS & ASSESSMENTS			1,304,989.42

II. LOCAL EXPENDITURES

Appropriations	2,508,161.34
Overlay deficit prior years	13,374.27
Offsets from Cherry Street	6,422.59
Revenue Deficit (Police compensation)	798.68
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURES	2,528,756.88

III.	STATE ASSESSMENTS (Cherry Street)	23,958.30
IV.	COUNTY ASSESSMENTS (Cherry Street)	56,430.41
V.	OVERLAY	55,263.80
VI.	GROSS AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	2,664,409.39

VII. ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS

1.	Total estimated receipts from State	664,915.04
2.	Prioryrs. overestimates (Ch. Sht)	16,371.43
3.	Local est. receipts (see Schedule A)	333,880.58
4.	Available Funds (includes Rev. Sharing)	142,189.57
5.	Available Funds to reduce tax rate	205,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS		1,362,356.62

SCHEDULE A. RECEIPTS

1.	Motor vehicle and Trailer Excise	175,115.65
2.	Licenses	3,200.00
3.	Fines	1,603.00
4.	Special Assessments	535.61
5.	General government	4,143.75
6.	Protection of persons and property	7,760.08
7, 8, 9, 10		0
11.	Libraries (Fines)	426.75
12.	Hospitals (Ambulance Service)	381.00
13.	Cemeteries	4,252.50
14 & 15.		0
16.	Farm animal and machinery excise	167.71
17.	Interest	16,928.84
18.	Public service enterprises (water dept)	106,564.50
19.		0
20.	Trailer park fees	10,392.00
21.	Lease Town-Owned Land	650.00
22.	Tax Titles	856.07
23.	Miscellaneous (checks returned, etc)	903.12
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		333,880.58

Tax Rate	$80.75
General Govt.	52.16
School	28.59

Valuation of Motor Vehicles (1976 Levy)	$2,469,450
Number of Motor Vehicles	3,102
Number of Dealer-Repair-Farm	11
Number of Horses	63
Number of Cows	165

Other Animals	8
Fowl	2500
Number of Houses	1113
Number of Acres (taxable)	4594
Deeds transferred and reviewed	130
1975 Permits reviewed	38
All assessments reviewed	

A large tax increase was projected. However, the Assessors were able to hold it to an increase of $5.05. With a sizeable Free Cash balance to reduce the rate and a supplemental Cherry Sheet, it helped to offset a large decrease in State Estimated Receipts. It was further made possible by the departments and taxpayers in holding down the spending at the annual Town Meeting, and the Assessors raising $170,330 in new valuation.

Statutory Exemptions are a large item using Assessors Overlay, with no reimbursement from the State except for Clause 22E:

General Laws Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 41: (Elderly)
68 Exempt — $292,513 Total Valuation

G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 22 (Veterans) (Includes 1 Paraplegic)
53 Exempt $114,861 Total Valuation

G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 17 (Widows)
8 Exempt — $17,337. Total Valuation

G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 18 (Infirmity-Hardship)
4 Exempt — $10,979. Total Valuation

G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 5, Clause 3 (Charitable Organizations)
7 Exempt $173,210. Total Valuation

The Board of Assessors attended Essex County and Massachusetts Assessors meetings. They are in the second year of undertaking the equalization program to update all properties, correcting inequities and increasing the valuations to bring them up to fair cash value in compliance with the requirements by the Commissioner to comply with the State Supreme Court's Sudbury decision to attain 100% fair cash value. This has been a tremendous task for a part-time board, but the work is progressing. New photographs and new assessment cards are being prepared for all properties. Those to have their assessments reviewed.

We wish to thank the honorable Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel, Finance Committee and all officials of the Town for their fine cooperation extended to us during 1976. We also wish to express our appreci-

ation to the State Bureaus of Local Assessment and Taxation for their assistance during this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmond L. Hamel, Chairman
Edward R. Davis, Clerk
J. Duncan How, Member

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac:

The Board of Health organized for 1976 as follows:

Robert F. Roy, Chairman
Constance A. Hoyt, Clerk
Arthur W. Hoyt, Member
Frederick Key, Sewage Inspector
Edward F. Ryan, Food Services Inspector

Inspector of all food service establishments has been undertaken by Mr. Ryan for full compliance with Town and State Sanitary Codes. New application and permit forms have been drafted and are in the process of being printed. These forms will cover all types of food service establishments. An inspection form following Federal Qualification Guidelines, has been drafted and is in the process of being printed. All food service establishments will be inspected a minimum of twice a year. New fee schedules are being considered to cover the additional expenses of theses inspections.

The Board has updated and adopted a new regulation concerning disposal sanitary sewage. A summary of the change is as follows:

Under the provisions of Section 31 and 127 of Chapter III of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as most recently amended, and any other enabling act, the Board of Health of the Town of Merrimac has adopted the following regulations relative to the disposal of sanitary sewage in unsewered areas: No subsurface sewage leaching system or septic tank shall be constructed within one-hundred (100) feet of any private well, or within five-hundred (500) feet in the case of a commercial building, or of a multiple dwelling, as defined in Section I of Chapter 151B, of the normal Spring high water level of any great pond, pond, stream, brook, river, surface or subsurface drain, swamp, or wetland or of any mean high water for tidal water.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Roy, Chairman

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Honorable Board of Selectmen
Merrimac, Mass.

Gentlemen:

As Town Clerk for the Town of Merrimac, I hereby submit my annual report for the year 1976:

BIRTHS

Number of Births recorded	56
Males	31
Females	25
Father, Native Born	55
Mother, Native Born	53
Father and Mother, both Native Born	53
Father and Mother, both Foreign Born	1
Mixed Parentage	2

MARRIAGES

Number of Marriages recorded	39
First Marriage of Groom	28
First Marriage of Bride	29
Groom, Native Born	39
Bride, Native Born	37
Groom, Foreign Born	0
Bride, Foreign Born	2
Average age of Groom	26 years, 1 month, 0 days
Average age of Bride	24 years, 1 month, 0 days

DEATHS

Number of Deaths recorded	34
Males	19
Females	15
Under 5 years	0
Males, Native Born	17
Females, Native Born	13
Of Native Parentage	22
Of Mixed Parentage	12
Average Age	69 years, 2 months 0 days
Oldest Person	94

LICENSES

Number of Dogs Licensed	212
Males	191
Females	19
Kennel Licenses	2

Sporting Licenses Issued 172
minor's Sporting Licenses Issued.....14

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy A. Cloyd
Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and to the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac:

I hereby submit my report as Tax Collector for the calender year 1976.

Free cash is no longer computed on January first, so this date is not as important as in the past.

However, of the 1977-78 Real Estate Taxes due on November first, 92% had been collected by the end of December. Of the 1976-77 Levy, 96% had been collected.

The Automobile Excises are still coming late from the State. In fact one 1975 commitment was received on February 9, 1977. There are approximately 3,600 Excises per year and 2,771 of the 1976 Excises were received in 1976, leaving approximately 800 still to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilfred G. Journeay
Collector of Taxes

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
and the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac, Massachusetts:

I hereby submit my annual report of the activities of the Police Department for the Year 1976.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 1976

Complaints	10,530
Misc. Complaints	8,266
Motor Vehicle Accidents	83
Number of Vehicles Involved	67
Number Injured in M/V Accidents	25
Motor Vehicle Fatals	0
Messages Delivered	176
Articles and Animals Lost	78
Assistance to Ill or Injured	118
Missing Persons Reported	23
Assistance to other Departments	126
Doors and Windows found unlocked	143
Poles and Wires Down	3
Lights Left Burning	17
Reports of Fires Investigated	57
Assistance Rendered Medical Examiner	4
People Away	182
Dog Bites	14
Dog Complaints	238
Breakdown Assistance	107
Vehicles Towed	61
Escorts	60
Snowmobile Complaints	5
Mini-Bike Complaints	52
Horse Complaints	19
Breaking and Entering	31
Assault and Battery	8
Vandalism	119
Stolen Vehicles	5
Stolen Vehicles from Merrimac, Recovered	4
False Stolen Vehicles Reported	0
Vehicles Stolen Out of Town, Recovered in Town	7
Summons Served for Out of Town Departments	164
Warrants Served for Out of Town Departments	4
Transfers	84
Motor Vehicles Warnings (Citations)	23
Motor Vehicle Complaints (Citations)	332
Motor Vehicle Verbal Warnings	380
Ambulance Assistance Rendered	43

NUMBER OF ARRESTS FOR THE YEAR 1976

Male Residents 132
Male Residents (Juvenile) 19
Female Residents 25
Female Residents (Juvenile) 3
Male Non Residents 278
Male Non Residents (Juvenile) 7
Female Non Residents 35
Female Non Residents (Juvenile) 1

Days in Dist. Court (Chief) 192
Days in Dist. Court (Officers) 212
Days in Superior Court (Chief) 10
Days in Superior Court (Officers) 39

CATEGORY	NUMBER	FINED	DISMISSED	NOT GUILTY	FILED	APPEALED	PROBATION	TOTAL FINES	HOUSE OF CORRECTION	OTHER
Oper. Under Inf. of Int. Liquor	19	13			1	5		$2,075.00	1	1HOC 6 mos. 12ASAP 3 Cont. 1 Failed to appear
Oper. to Endanger	7	5	2			1		375.00		1 Cont. w/o Find. 1 Warrant 1 DYS
Oper. on Restriction Lic. after Hours	7	7						90.00		
Oper. w/o Lic.	18	16	1		1			205.00		1 Cont. 6 mos. w/o finding 1 DYS
Oper. w/o Lic. in Possession	37	28	1		3	1		345.00		3 Cont. w/ Find. 1 Changed to warning 1 Capias
Oper. after Revocation	3	2		1				125.00		1 10 Days HOC (Weekends)
No reg. in Poss.	29	26				1		290.00		1 Capias
Oper. Unins. M/V	4	2	1					225.00		1 Capias
Oper. Unreg. M/V	5	4						85.00		1 Capias
Speeding	151	128	3	1	1	1		2,654.25		2 Cont. w/o find. 6 No Show 2 Warrants 3 Capias 1 DYS 1 Change to Warn.
Left of Way	29	26		1	1			315.00		1 Reg. Action
Fail. to stop at Stop Sign	14	13						130.00		
Fail to Stop for Police Officer	6	4						231.25		1 Cont. 1 DYS

CATEGORY	NUMBER	FINED	DISMISSED	NOT GUILTY	FILED	APPEALED	PROBATION	TOTAL FINES	HOUSE OF CORRECTION	OTHER
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle	5						2			2 DYS 1 $50. Ct. cost plus $50. Restitution 1Cont. 1 yr. w/o find. 1 yr. prob. $62.50 Restit. 1 Cont. 1 yr. w/o find. 1 yr. Prob. $150 Restitution
Oper. w/o Head-Lights at Night	4	2			1	1		20.00		1 Grand Jury
Fail. to Stay w/in marked lanes	21	18			2			400.00		1 No Show
Littering	1					1				
Allowing Improper Person to oper. M/V	2	2						20.00		
Oper. M/C w/o Helmet	4	4						270.00		
Oper. M/C on Learn. Permit w/Passenger	1	1						10.00		
Oper. M/C w/o Eye Protection Gear	2	2						20.00		
Oper. M/C w/o Lic.	2	2						20.00		
Larceny from M/V	2						2		2	2 1 yr. HOC Susp. 2 yrs. Probation
Towing Unreg. Trailer	1	1						25.00		
Towing Unins. Trailer	1	1						25.00		
Defective Equipment	´76	53			4			580.00		2 Cont. w/o find. 2 Nolo 3 No Show 2 Summons 2 Capias 1 Non Payment
Improp. Attached Lic. Plates	1	1						10.00		
No Inspection Sticker	31	20		1		1		250.00		1 No Show 1 Regist. Action 1 Warrant 1 Capias
False Insp. Sticker	1						1		1	1 6 mos. HOC, 1 yr. probation
Improper Starting	11	8						85.00		1 Nolo 1 Cont. 1 Capias, non payment of fine
Improper Turning	3	2						20.00		1 Summons
Impeded Operation	5	3		1				30.00		1 Grand Jury
Fail. to Report Change of Address	2									1 Summons 1 Warrant
Fail. to Have M/V Inspected	1	1						10.00		
Giving False Name	1	1						50.00		

CATEGORY	NUMBER	FINED	DISMISSED	NOT GUILTY	FILED	APPEALED	PROBATION	TOTAL FINES	HOUSE OF CORRECTION	OTHER
Possession of Controlled Substance	1								1	Suspended 1 30 Days HOC 1 Bound over Grand
Illegal Sale of Controlled Substance	2							200.00		Jury, 14 Counts 1 Cont. 1 yr. w/o find., $200.00
Delinquent by Poss. Cont. Substance	1									1 Continued
Assault & Battery	6						1		1	1 2½ yrs. HOC 1 Susp. 2 yrs. Prob. 1 Susp. 3 yrs. Prob. 1 Cont. 3 mos. w/o find. 1 Continued
Assault & Battery Dangerous Weapon	1									1 Grand Jury
Assault & Battery on a Police Officer	7						1		1	1 1 yr. HOC 2 Cont. 3 mos. w/o find. 1 Cont. 1 yr. w/o find. 1 3 mos. Susp., 1 yr. Probation
Delinguent by reason of A & B	1									
Disorderly Person	2	1	1					62.50		
Disturbing the Peace	4						2		1	1 HOC, 30 days 1 2 yrs. Probation 1 6 mos. Probation 1 Cont. 3 mos. w/o finding
Fail to Appear in Court	1								1	10 days weekends
Resisting Arrest	3	1						50.00	1	1 1 yr. HOC 1 Cont. 3 mos. w/o finding
Violation of By-Law	1	1						10.00		
Uttering Worthless Checks	2						2		2	2 3 mos. Suspended 2 yrs. Probation
Larceny by Check	3						2		2	2 3 mos. Suspended 2 yrs. Probation 1 Continued
Breaking & Entering	3						2		2	2 1 yr. HOCl Susp. 2 yrs. Probation Rest. $500.00 1 3 mos. Suspended
Larceny	7						2		1	1 1 yr. HOC, Susp. 2 yrs. Probation 1 YSB 1 YSB, Cont. 1 YSB, Susp., Prob. 4-77 1 Cont.

CATEGORY	NUMBER	FINED	DISMISSED	NOT GUILTY	FILED	APPEALED	PROBATION	TOTAL FINES	HOUSE OF CORRECTION	OTHER
Larceny continued										1 3 mos. Susp. 1 Cont. 6 mos., $50. Ct. costs
B & E in the Night	2						1		1	1 6 yrs. & 1 Day, Concord 1 1 yr. HOC Susp. 2 yrs. Probation
Receiving Stolen Property	4						1		1	1 60 days Susp. 3 Warrants
Larceny under $100.	1									
Malicious Damage	6						5		5	1 1 yr. HOC, Susp. 2 yr. Prob. $500. 1 1 yr. HOC, Susp. 2 yr. Prob. $500. 3 1 yr. HOC, Susp. 2 yr. Prob. 1 3 mos. Susp.
Del. by reason of A&B on Pol. Off.	1			1						
Poss. of Stolen Prop.	1			1						
Habitual Truant	1									1 Cont.
Unarmed Robbery	1									1 Cont.
Attempt to Extort Money by Threat of Bodily Harm	1									Grand Jury
Leaving scene of Acc. after Causing Property Damage	1					1			1	6 mos. HOC, Appealed
Trespassing	3									3 Cont.
Fail. to Cover Load	1									1 Summons
Fail. to Pay Fine	1									1 Capias
Fail. to Pay Ct. Cost	1	1						10.00		
Drinking in Public	1	1						25.00		$12.50 Ct. Cost
Minor in Poss. of Alcoholic Beverage	3									

The Police Department would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to the ever increasing number of citizens who are aiding and assisting the Police Department in difficult task of Law Enforcement with Suburban Crime increasing, it is gratifying to the Police Department to know people who care are also on the increase.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Montigny
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen

From: Ruth Parker, Whitter Representative
Donald B. MacDonald, Superintendent Director

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is in its fourth year of operation. This will be our first year to graduate students who have participated in a full four year program.

It is encouraging to see the development of a unified student body that has pride in their school and with a clear identity to Whittier. This pride and identity has been shown in a diminishing degree of discipline problems and a marked drop in vandalism.

We have come through a period of time in our growth which has not been easy. Bringing together faculty members from the "old school", a diversified assortment of other schools, young men and women fresh out of college, men and women from the ranks of industry and formulating an effective teaching staff is a credit to all concerned. This is not to say that we have reached our plateau in effectiveness, but it is to say that real progress is being made toward that goal.

One of the most significant changes visible from an administrative viewpoint is the maturing of our faculty. This maturity is evident in the manner in which the faculty addresses problems together, seeking new and better ways of providing our student body with a better education.

This maturity and stabilizing factor is evident within the administration also. We have reached a point in our development which enables us to have the time necessary to assess and evaluate our programs from an educational standpoint and recommend new ideas.

In reality there is no substitute for time to effect the cohesiveness and trust that has taken place over the past four years. The faculty and administration are to be congratulated for pulling together and accomplishing a difficult task.

Through a federal grant we have been able to run an exploratory program for high school students who desire vocational education, but who have been denied such education because of full enrollment in our day school.

This program is run in cooperation with the local schools and Whittier. The student attends his or her regular academic class at his own high school in the morning and at approximately 2 P.M. is bussed to Whittier Regional for the purpose of learning vocational skills.

At the present time we have some 120 co-od students taking advantage of this offering and from all indications, the program is a success and shall be considered for continuation through our regular budget. Only those cities or towns which avail themselves of this service will be assessed and the state department of education shall reimburse the district 50% under Chapter 74 of the General Laws for this program.

The Whittier Regional Vocational Evening School continues to grow in popularity. We are presently running four evenings a week with a wide variety of course offerings. The evening program is an excellent way for adult members of our communities to enjoy some of the benefits of their school, as well as having a first hand view of what Whittier is all about.

The Athletic offerings are being expanded to provide more sport programs for girls. At present we offer the following inter-scholastic programs:

Football — Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Cross Country
Cheerleading
Boys Basketball, Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Girls Basketball, Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Gymnastics
Wrestling
Hockey — Varsity, Junior Varsity
Indoor Track
Baseball — Varsity, Junior Varsity
Softball
Track
Tennis

New Teams to be added in 1977:

Golf
Field Hockey — Girls

New Team to be added in 1978:

J. V. Softball — Girls

As a new school we are building some very competitive teams and our girls softball team brought great honor to us by being the Commonwealth Conference Champions with an overall record of 10-2. Our team played in the State Tournament and lost the first game.

Our Spring Track team, with an overall record of 7-1, placed second in the Commonwealth Conference losing only to Greater Lawrence in the last meet of the year which decided the conference championship.

Our boys basketball team missed qualifying for the State Tourna-

ment in the last second of the last game of the year against Northeast Regional.

Although our student participation in all sports is good, we need the support of parents by their presence at our games. We have a very active Booster's Club, but they need your help. any sport requires a following and one of our most important goals at Whittier is to develop a sense of pride within our athletes. Pride can best be developed by having parents involved with our Booster's Club and present at our games.

One of the highlights of our sports program is our faithful cheerleaders who are present and cheering win, lose or draw.

The buildings and grounds at Whittier are showing signs of improvement. Many things that could be included in the original building, but are necessary, are being done.

Notably, our DECA store and classroom addition is almost ready for occupancy. This will give us an added dimension to our educational offerings, as well as space for developing a more efficient administration and business office set-up.

Security is being tightened; we now have most of the fencing needed to enclose the school from outside intruders. A concerted effort is being made to establish better security within the building. Additional security personnel have been contracted which should show a marked improvement in maintaining our school.

As progress is being made in many areas of the school, we have been confronted with a serious blow to our Building Trades courses. Our method of teaching trade skills is through learning by doing real jobs. One of our selling points for running this school was that the student body could do community projects that otherwise couldn't be done because of excessive cost.

Our problem stems from objections by the local union. We had met with and agreed to build a fire station in West Newbury, a building which would have given our students many learning skills, as well as the pride in knowing that they had done something worthwhile.

The objection by the Union was that while our students were learning, they were taking work away from union men who were out of work. The union approached their problem through the Department of Labor, who ruled that any public building that cost in excess of $1000 must go out on bid and that the prevailing wage must be paid for such work.

The answer to our difficulty is in the court of Law and we shall abide by its decision. Although this situation does hamper the learning processes of our students, we are utilizing our student body to accomplish many projects within the school.

The special education department has made progress this year with the addition of several new staff members to provide needed services to the handicapped. Of special interest is the addition of a certified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor form the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. This person will be a full time employee of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, but will provide services exclusively to the handicapped students enrolled at Whittier Regional.

A need which has been made known to us at Whittier in many ways centers around the youth in trouble. The student who has dropped out of school, has become involved with the law, and needs assistance. To this end Whittier Regional is attempting to put into place special programs under the special needs department to serve these youths in ways which are educationally sound, but away from the normal stream of classrooms. Your support for such a program will be needed in the coming months.

The Following is a list of our Day School programs:

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Auto Body
Auto Repair
Basic Electronics
Carpentry:
  Boat Building
  Cabinet Making
  House Building
Clothing and Textiles
Commercial Art
Cosmetology
Culinary Arts
Data Processing
Diesel Machine
Dietary Aide
Distributive Education
Drafting
Electrical
Fashion Design
Foods and Nutrition
Graphic Communications
Health Careers
Interior Design Aide
Library Aide
Machine Shop
Nursery and Kindergarten Aide
Painting and Decorating
Plumbing and Heating
Sheet Metal
Special Needs
Trowel Trades
Upholstery
Welding

Courses offered in our Afternoon Program:

Auto Body
Auto Repair
Carpentry
Culinary Arts
Fashion Design
Machine Shop
Welding
G. V.-Sheet Metal Carpentry

Evening School offerings, as follows:

Apprentice Classes:

Carpentry
Electrical
Machine Shop
Plumbing
Welding (Ironworkers)

Trade Extension Classes:

Auto Repair	Machine Shop
Carpentry	Plumbing (Hydronic Heating)
Electrical	Welding

Trade Preparatory:

Air Conditioning	Drafting
Auto Body	Graphic Communications
Auto Repair	Machine Shop
Basic Electronics	Sheet Metal
Boat Building	Trowel Trades
Carpentry	Typing
Culinary Arts	Upholstery
Data Processing	Welding
Diesel Machine	Nurse's Aide

Community Interest:

Physical Fitness

See attached sheet for Day School enrollment and 1976 graduates.

The enrollment for the Evening School from your community:

1975 Fall Semester	57
1976 Spring Semester	59

The cost to your community for the school year 1975-1976 was $110,527.04.

Respectfully yours,

Ruth Parker (Mrs.)
Whittier Representative

Donald B. MacDonald
Superintendent Director

WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
MERRIMAC ENROLLEMENT
10/1/75

	GR. 10		GR. 11		GR. 12		June 2, 1976
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Graduates
Auto Body	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Air Conditioning	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Auto Repair	-	1	-	3	-	-	
Boat Building	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Basic Electronics	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Culinary Arts	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Child Care	*	*	3	-	1	-	1
Career Development	3	-	*	*	*	*	
Commercial Art	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Cosmetology	*	*	1	-	1	-	1
Carpentry	-	3	-	2	-	1	1
Dietary Aide	*	*	2	-	-	-	
Distributive Ed	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Diesel Machine	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Data Processing	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Drafting	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Electrical	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Fashion Design	*	*	-	-	-	-	
Graphic Communication	-	1	-	1	-	1	
Health Careers	1	-	2	-	1	-	
Interior Decorating	*	*	-	-	-	-	
Library Aide	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Machine Shop	-	1	-	-	-	3	3
Painting & Decorating	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Plumbing & Heating	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sheet Metal	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Special Needs							
Industrial Trade	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Trowel Trades	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Upholstery	-	2	-	2	-	-	
Welding	-	1	-	2	-	-	
	5	13	11	12	5	16	18

Grade 9, General Vocation: 14 boys, 4 girls

Total Secondary: 80 (including 7 Special Needs)

Post-Secondary: 2

GRAND TOTAL: 82

*Shop not available that year

Annual Report of the SCHOOL COMMITTEE of the TOWN OF MERRIMAC For the Year Ending December 31, 1976

In accordance with custom and with the Acts of the General Court, 1859, Chapter 57, we herewith submit to you the 106th annual printed school report.

ZILLAH M. BUZZELL, Chairman
EIDA V. JERVEY, Vice Chairman
RHONDA OSBORNE, Secretary
SUSAN COBURN
CHARLES H. GOLDSTEIN

SCHOOL OFFICERS

JOHN C. JAKOBEK, Superintendent of Schools
Office: Main Street, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-2280

MILTON A. McCLURE, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Special Education
Office: Main Street, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-2250

CHARLES J. FIORINO, Business Manager
Office: Main Street, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-5101

FREDERICK N. SWEETSIR, M.D., School Physician
Address: 84 River Road, Merrimac, Mass.

DOROTHY E. DOUGHTY, R.N., School Nurse
Address: 104 River Road, Merrimac, Mass.

MARGARET A. MUNDY, R.N., School Nurse
Address: 11 Glen Road, Merrimac, Mass.

WORKING CERTIFICATES:
Pentucket Regional High School, Guidance Department

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 1976

To the Selectmen and the Citizens of Merrimac:

The Merrimac School Committee submits this report for the year 1976. For the educational program in Grades 7-12 please turn to the Pentucket Regional School Committee report. For vocational activities in the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School, of which this town is a member, please turn to the Whittier report.

Although this Committee is in charge of the Elementary grades only, this Committee summarizes the public school population for which the Town had responsibility (10-1-76).

Elementary Pupils

Kindergarten	77
Grades 1-6	521

Pentucket Regional

Grades 7-9	258
Grade 10-12	238

Whittier Vocational

Grades 9-12	79

School Expenditures

Over the past few years your School Committees have reviewed the everchanging duties and obligations of an educational nature that affect your schools and school budgets. You are familiar with most of these through the efforts of the various media that reach into the home. As you know the Committees have accepted these responsibilities because they were the law of the Commonwealth which the members are sworn to uphold. The most visible of these has been Chapter 766 which prescribed diagnosis, evaluation and remediation of special education children. A careful examination of this recent legislation shows that in a number of cases, the burden of education, pupil health and rehabilitation has been transferred from other public agencies to the schools. In a few cases the pupils have been even maintained in special schools but their cost has been ascribed to the local schools.

These laws have added to the cost of the education of our children. Their humanitarian purposes for the child and society cannot be questioned. The responsibility for carrying out these laws was placed on School Committees because no other public or private agency could do as well. The School Committee did not seek these responsibilities

but it is its duty to carry them out. These laws were well-meant but it is evident that the financing of these responsibilities has not kept pace with the actual implementation thereof.

But not all the responsibilities affecting your school budget have arisen as a result of educational legislation. We include some of these non-educational laws here not because we are opposed to the intent of the law so much as you should know the costs thereof are reflected in the school budget. Some of these related costs have a heavy impact in one school year and relatively minor impact thereafter. Some have a moderate cost annually.

Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)
Fair Labor Standards Act
Environmental Protection Laws
  water pollution
  air pollution
Building Fire and Safety Laws
Collective Bargaining for Public Employees
Heating and Ventilating

Your School Budget

It may be well to review how this Committee prepares its budget requests. Obviously there is an on-going educational program in the town providing buildings staffed by professional teachers instructing pupils. The budget for the forthcoming school year is made by examining every aspect of the present program, adding and/or eliminating items as needed. The educational program planned for the budgetary year then must be converted to dollars and cents. On the basis of known factors and many unknown quantities like the cost of fuel oil, the cost of negotiated agreements and the new legislation, a fiscal year budget is prepared.

This budget is developed in open meetings. By law an open hearing is then held on this budget. It is then submitted to the Town Officials. One or more meetings are held annually with the Town Finance Committee to explain the School Committee's decisions. the budget is then acted upon at a Town Meeting.

Cost vs. Reimbursements for School Expenditures

In recent years the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has recognized its obligations for the education of its citizens and this recognition has resulted in State Aid which now approaches fifty percent of the local education costs. Interested citizens who may wish to further determine their amounts can do so at the Town Hall. This Committee hereby indicates the major areas of reimbursement for school purposes.

General Fund Appropriated Reimbursement Programs

1. School Transportation G.L.CH. 71, s. 7A
2. Outside Schools Transportation G.L. Ch. 74, s. 8A
3. Construction of School Projects 1948, Ch. 645 1954, Ch. 346, s. 6A
4. Vocational Education G.L. Ch. 74, S. 9, 1967, Ch. 791
5. Regional School District Aid G.L. Ch. 71, s. 16D 1967, Ch. 779
6. Tuition and Transportation of Children G.L. Ch. 76, s. 7
7. Special Education Programs, G.L. Ch. 69 & Ch. 71
8. School Aid, G.L. Ch. 70, as amended

Educational Programs

Reading. The present basal Reading program is the Ginn 720 program (latest program developed by the Ginn Company).

It is a comprehensive general basic reading instructional program. It is designed to take non-reading, school-entering children through 13 levels of structured, sequenced instruction, bring them to an acceptable level of general reading competence.

Ginn 720 includes 13 levels of materials which pupils read, together with supporting materials for practice, reinforcement, evaluation and enrichment.

The Reading 720 has a single anticipated outcome: That pupils who have been instructed through its 13 levels will learn to read at a reasonable level of accomplishment. The pupil is expected to have acquired competence in 4 major sets of skills in order to be considered to be reading.

1. Decoding — strategies for attaching unfamiliar words.

2. Literal comprehension — understanding the author's message.

3. Inferential comprehension — critical assessment of the author's ideas.

4. Using ideas — applying reading skills to material beyond the text.

Reading 720 is a book-based learning system, it requires no special equipment or installations in the classroom and no special personnel or programs to support it.

Science. The local science program is known as the SCIS program — Science Curriculum Improvement Study.

It is a kind of science program for elementary schools developed by a team of scientists and educators.

SCIS consists of two series of related and sequential units. One unit in life science, and one in physical science are paired for each six levels. Taking advantage of the natural curiosity of children, SCIS presents a wide variety of phenomena for classroom exploration and investigation. At each of the six levels numerous inquiry-oriented activities help children accumulate experiences and ideas which advance their thinking from the concrete to the abstract, and enable them to relate scientific concepts to the everyday world.

Teaching strategies based on current theories about how children learn play a major role in the SCIS program. Three stages in a child's learning cycle are provided for. In exploration, the child explores the carefully chosen materials with minimal guidance from the teacher. In invention, the teacher supplies a definition and a term for a concept. Discovery activities reinforce the original concept and enlarge and refine its meaning. Because the program is action-oriented and materials-centered it is well suited to elementary needs. Since there are many "right" answers, the child develops a feeling of success which carries over into other areas. The diversity of materials and investigations enriches his vocabulary and leads to growth of language skills.

Your School Committee submits its annual report to the taxpayers and citizens in the firm belief that it has carried on its obligation to provide sound basic programs for all children. In recent years, with the advent of Chapter 766 (Special Education), program adjustments were adopted to meet the "mainstreaming" requirements of this law.

The programs in operation have met the requirements for all children. The program now in effect accommodate the vast differences in pupil abilities and achievements. These differences exist in individuals as well as in the groups to which they belong. We know that each child is different. Each child may respond differently to stimuli within and outside the school walls. Some pupils react favorably to visual types of instruction: others to auditory clues more readily; others to other types of instruction.

This Committee is not unmindful of the financial efforts that have been made and need to be made in educating our children. We acknowledge that there have been and still are differences of opinion on the content of our educational programs. The programs now supported implement the laws of the Commonwealth and the needs of our children. We submit that we have carried out the wishes of the majority as expressed or implied in their communications to us.

Respectfully submitted,

ZILLAH M. BUZZELL, Chairman
SUSAN COBURN
CHARLES H. GOLDSTEIN
EIDA V. JERVEY
RHONDA OSBORNE

MERRIMAC SCHOOL COMMITTEE

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOL STAFF 1976-1977

Position	Name	Training	Total Yrs. Experience	Years in Merrimac
Helen R. Donaghue School Principal	Annette A. Autiello	B.S. Suffolk University 1966 M.Ed. Suffolk University 1969	11	9
Red Oak School Principal	Judson R. Merrill	A.B. Bowdoin College 1948 M.Ed. Suffolk University 1959	24	2.7
INTERMEDIATE UNIT:				
	Dawn Rae Allen	B.S. Salem State College	9	9
	Nancy W. Deminie	B.A. University of N.H. 1953	18	18
	Jane K. Sheedy	B.A. University of Mass. 1967	9	9
	Mary Jane Lane	B.S. Salem State College 1974	3	3
	Genevieve Smithson	Posse School of Phys. Ed. 1938	24	18
	John L. Randall, III	B.Ed. Keene Teachers' College 1962	15	9
	Edward Martin	B.S. Salem State College 1965	11	11
	Patricia M. Condon	B.S. Gordon College 1953	20	13
	Mary H. Coughlin	A.B. Merrimack College 1961 M.A. Salem State College 1964	15	8 Leave of Absence 10-4-76 to 6-30-77
	Patricia A. Miller	B.S. Bucknell University 1976	0	Began 10-4-76
	Roy M. Campbell	B.S. Gordon College 1971	6	6
	Rosalie M. Scher	B.S. Farmington Teachers' College	10	7
	Gretchen J. Scholten	B.A. University of Mass. 1971	5	5
PRIMARY UNIT:				
	Constance L. Gordon	B.S. University of Maine 1969	8	8
	Barbara M. Taylor	B.S. Gordon College 1967	11	10
	Marion F. Johnson	B.S. University of N.H. 1949 M.Ed. Salem State College 1965	28	20

	Glenn M. Allison	B.S. Boston State College 1975	2	2
	Constance C. Dublin	B.S. Lowell State College 1960	15.3	8.3
	Jean M. Antczak	B.S. Salem State College 1970	7	7
	Susanne P. Spalding	B.A. University of Mass. 1974	1.6	1.6
	Patricia E. McAllister	B.S. Boston State College 1976	0	Began 9-1-76
	Richard R. Jervey	B.S. North Adams State 1974	3	3
	Deborah L. McNulty	B.S. Lowell State College 1972	3.5	Leave of Absence 1-30-76 to 9-1-78
	Janice C. Ryan	B.S. Salem State College 1974	1.5	1.5
Position	Name	Training	Total Yrs. Experience	Years in Merrimac
PRIMARY UNIT (continued)		B.S. Worcester State College 1963		
	Ellen G. Meredith	M.A. University of Conn. 1964	4	Began 9-1-76
	Linda M. Gilmartin	B.S. Salem State College 1971	6	6
	Angela Jervey	B.S. Salem State College 1972	4.6	4.6
	Martha A. Williams	B.S. State College at Westfield 1971	5	Leave of Absence 9-1-76 to 9-1-79
	Ellen C. Bettencourt	B.S. Lowell State College 1972	5	5
Art Supervisor	Nancy Perkins	M.Ed. University of Mass.	18	13
Vocal Music	Veronica E. Laite	B.A. Madonna College, Mich. 1967	13	8
Instrumental Music	Michael F. Buckley	B.A. Berklee College of Music 1974	0	Began 9-1-76
Speech Therapist	Shirley L. Southwick	A.B. Boston University 1955	6	3
Speech Therapist	Maureen E. Carne	B.S. Emerson College 1970 M.Ed. Northeastern University 1971	6	1.8
Special Education	Thomas F. Moughan	B.S. Fitchburg State College 1964	13	9
Reading	Ellenmarie A. Widman	B.Ed. Keene State College 1968 M.S. University of N.H. 1972	7	Leave of Absence
T.P.M.H.	Linda M. Brackett	B.S. Lowell State College 1970	7	7
Adjustment Counselor	Lucia A. DePamphilis	B.S. State College at Framingham M.Ed. Salem State College 1970	8	8
Physical Education	Priscilla P. Wilson	B.S. Russell Sage College 1950 M.Ed. Boston University 1973	13	9
Reading	Nancy B. Taylor	B.S. Lesley College 1955 M.Ed. Universtiy of N.H. 1969	4	Began 9-1-76

1976-1977
SCHOOL CALENDAR

PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL
&
SCHOOL UNION #53

Approved 4-14-76

1976		
September		
7	Tuesday	Orientation: Teachers
8	Wednesday	School Opens for Pupils Gr. K-6
October		
11	Monday	Holiday - no school - Columbus Day
November		
10	Wednesday	Ends 1st quarter - 45 days
11	Thursday	Holiday - no school ; Veterans Day
12	Friday	Schools closed - Parent-Teachers Conference K-6
24	Wednesday	Schools close at noon for Thanksgiving Holiday
29	Monday	Schools open
December		
23	Thursday	Schools close end-of-day for the Christmas holidays
1977		
January		
3	Monday	Schools open
26	Wednesday	Ends 1st Half - 45 days
31	Monday	K a.m./p.m. reversals
February		
21	Monday	Schools closed for Winter vacation
28	Monday	Schools open
April		
8	Friday	Schools closed - Good Friday Ends 3rd quarter - 47 days
18	Monday	Schools closed for Spring vacation
25	Monday	Schools open
May		
30	Monday	Schools close - Memorial Day
June		
3	Friday	
4	Saturday	
14,15,16		
17	Friday	180th day. Last day of school if no days were canceled
23	Thursday	June 20, 21, 22, 23 are make-up days

184 days

MERRIMAC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY 1977 FY BUDGET DETAILS
(Voted 2/28/77)

	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
1000 SERIES - ADMINISTRATION		
1100 SCHOOL COMMITTEE		
314 Contracted Services - School Union	$ 2,100.00	$ 2,100.00
316 Other Expenses	1,275.00	945.00
1200 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE		
311 Salaries, Professional - School Union	12,334.00	12,334.00
312 Salaries, Office	7,389.00	7,741.00
314 Contracted Services	250.00	575.00
315 Supplies & Materials	1,300.00	1,350.00
316 Other Expenses	900.00	900.00
2000 SERIES — INTRODUCTION		
2200 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE		
311 Administrative Salaries	38,500.00	40,810.00
312 Office Cerical Salaries	13,270.00	13,089.00
314 Contracted Services	1,175.00	1,175.00
315 Supplies & Materials	700.00	700.00
316 Other Expenses	1,175.00	1,200.00
2300 TEACHING		
311 Salaries, Professional	400,397.00	424,948.00
312 Salaries, Non-Professional	8,640.00	7,353.00
314 Contracted Services	2,800.00	2,550.00
315 Supplies & Materials	16,000.00	16,000.00
316 Other Expenses	250.00	270.00
2400 TEXTBOOKS & WORKBOOKS		
315a Textbooks	9,563.00	9,325.00
315b Workbooks	9,303.00	13,181.00
2500 LIBRARY/INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA		
312 Salaries, Non-Professional	7,500.00	6,534.00
315 Supplies & Materials	500.00	550.00

	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
3000 SERIES — OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES		
3200 HEALTH SERVICES		
311 Salaries, Professional	11,962.00	12,370.00
315 Supplies & Materials	300.00	350.00
316 Other Expenses	100.00	175.00
3370 TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTED SERVICES — Separate Vote	37,470.00	36,540.00

3400 FOOD SERVICES		
312 Lunch Aides	8,145.00	8,535.00
3500 SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE	None	200.00

4000 SERIES — OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF PLANT

4110 CUSTODIAL SERVICES		
313 Salaries	43,043.00	43,300.00
315 Supplies & Materials	5,150.00	5,150.00
4120 HEATING OF BUILDINGS	22,460.00	23,300.00
4130 UTILITY SERVICES		
315 Telephones	2,650.00	2,650.00
315 Utilities — Supt.'s Office	600.00	600.00
4210 MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS		
314 Contracted Services	1,000.00	1,300.00
315 Supplies	300.00	300.00
4220 MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS		
314 Contracted Services	13,810.00	15,450.00
315 Supplies & Materials	3,100.00	3,500.00
4230 MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	1,675.00	1,775.00

	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978

7000 SERIES — ACQUISITION OF FIXED ASSETS

7300 ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT (Fixed Assets)		
318 Library Books	1,200.00	1,600.00
318 Equipment — Red Oak	1,015.00	2,000.00
318 Equipment — Helen R. Donaghue	1,621.00	2,048.00
7400 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT — RedOak	1,310.00	730.00
Helen R. Donaghue	1,550.00	2,500.00
9000 PROGRAMS WITH OTHER DISTRICTS (Chap. 74) — Separate Vote)	800.00	100.00
	$694,002.00	$728,683.00

SCHEDULE B — CHAPTER 766

2300B INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES		
311B Teaching Services	64,736.00	73,900.00
312B Clerical	500.00	200.00
314B Contracted Services	2,500.00	1,100.00
315B Supplies & Materials	1,200.00	800.00
316B Other Expenses	350.00	400.00
2400B TEXTBOOKS		
315B Textbooks & Workbooks	1,100.00	1,000.00

3200B HEALTH SERVICES	500.00	500.00
3370B TRANSPORTATION 314B Contracted Services	10,000.00	10,000.00
4130B UTILITY SERVICES	None	400.00
7300B FIXED ASSETS	1,000.00	800.00
9000B OTHER SCHOOL PROGRAMS	13,000.00	12,000.00
	$ 94,886.00	$101,100.00
TOTAL	$788,888.00	$829,783.00

Report of the

PENTUCKET REGIONAL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For The

Year Ending December 31, 1976

In accordance with Chapter 71, Section 16K, the Pentucket Regional District School Committee submits its 23rd annual report to each of the member towns.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

JOHN C. JAKOBEK, Superintendent of Schools
Office: Dr. John C. Page School, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-2280

MILTON A. McCLURE, Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum and Special Education
Office: Dr. John C. Page School, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-2250

CHARLES J. FIORINO, Business Manager
Office: Dr. John C. Page School, West Newbury, Mass.
Telephone: 363-5101

ALEXANDER S. JOHNSTON, Supervising Principal High School
Office: Pentucket Regional High School, West Newbury, Mass.

BERTRAM D. FECTEAU, Assistant Principal High School
Address: 15 Moody Street, Amesbury, Mass.

FRANCIS J. FERREIRA, JR., Supervising Principal Jr. High School
Office: Pentucket Regional Junior High School,
West Newbury, Mass.

WILLIAM H. WHITING, Assistant Principal Junior High School
Address: 68 West Main Street, Merrimac, Mass.

ALVIN H. WATKINS, Treasurer/Accountant
Address: 175 Lowell Avenue, Haverhill, Mass.

MICHAEL A. GRASSI, M.D. School Physician
Address: 527 South Main Street, Bradford, Mass.

MRS. JUDITH E. SILVIA, R.N., School Nurse
Address: 107 East Main Street, Merrimac, Mass.

MRS. JANICE B. PISANO, R.N., School Nurse
Address: 510 Main Street, West Newbury, Mass.

PENTUCKET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Annual Report — Calendar Year, 1976

To: The Selectmen and Citizens
of Groveland, Merrimac, and West Newbury.

The Pentucket Regional District School Committee submits this report to you for the 1976 Calendar Year. Of the many items of interest to the people of the District, we have selected the more important and vital ones.

School population. Unless there is an unexpected shift of students to the District, the peak enrollments at Pentucket have been reached. In the next few years the population will be about what it is this year. Beginning in 1979 there is expected a noticeable decrease in pupils.

School bond issues. The bond issues which were floated to finance the original building are maturing in the next few years. One issue will mature during the 1977 fiscal year; the other will mature during the 1978 fiscal year. The remaining bond issues, those for the junior high school, will mature in 1985.

Educational Program

In providing the educational program, the School Committee is involved in issues which try to balance the needs of pupils as against the resources of the community. This requires weighing educational programs prescribed by law and adapting these programs to individual needs. If it was possible we might tailor a program for the present and the future including an occupation suited to each child. This, of course, is beyond our attainment so we develop standards most appropriate for individuals. But, there is an irreducible minimum for children.

This minimum depends in part on the knowledge and understanding that people have of the investment in education. This minimum depends in part on the expectations of the citizenry for its children. For some, the preparation for an entrance to college is dominant. For others the preparation for life seems adequate. Repeated surveys of parental opinions strongly indicate that most people value education as a preparation for work, better jobs and economic success.

Study after study shows that the investment people make in their children's education does make a difference. A better education pays off in higher income, in more opportunities, in a better life. If this is the case, and reasonable men accept the preponderance of evidence that it is, then the community must reassess its values and provide the resources that it must to educate its young.

Finances

The 1976 School Budget. For fiscal 1976 the Committee established a total budget of $2,789,871.00. This budget was reduced by $22,270.00 with a transfer from the Excess and Deficiency Account. Estimated receipts were expected to total $305,151.00; this sum further reduced the request to the towns. The enactment of Chapter 436 (1975) directing some Chapter 71 funds directly to Regional Schools further reduced town assessments by $566,920.00 The balance of the amount $1,895,530.00 was raised by assessments to the towns.

1976 Receipts. The major receipts for 1976 are shown here.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Reimbursements

Constructions Grants	$131,179.25	
Transportation	30,070.32	
Special Education	80,401.74	
Chapter 71 Section 16	675,157.36	
Public Law 89-10, Section VI B	19,700.00	
		$936,508.67

Other Reimbursements included

U.S. Public Law #874 (Impacted Area)	12,742.00
School Lunch, U.S.D.A.	54,731.27
and others which can be seen in the Treasurer's Report	

Complete financial statements of all receipts and expenditures follow this report.

Concerns, yours and ours

1. Sewage Disposal

At our last reporting to you this Committee reported the dysfunction of the Senior High School leaching field. Emergency measures were taken to extend its life as much as possible while permanent solutions were explored. After careful evaluation of the alternatives, especially in view of continuing costs and the uncertain life of alternatives, the Committee agreed to link its sewage systems to the Groveland system which in turn is part of the Merrimack Valley System. The estimated cost to the District is $146,300.00 This figure was made possible by the inclusion of Pentucket's system into Federal grants made to the Town of Grove-

land. Upon completion of this installation, the District will have a disposal system acceptable to all environmental agencies.

2. Athletic considerations

Although the District's land area appears sufficient for athletic activities, the increase in the number of teams and activities has created demands which cannot be met without limiting some activities and practice sessions. This has caused concern for the participants and the Committee. The alternatives that are available for the Committee regarding these shortages are: using the facilities of other schools or towns, expanding the present boundaries, and revising land usage now under the jurisdiction of the Committee. In time it may be neccessary to use all possible alternatives.

For those who have familiar and concerned with the present track at the Senior High School, this Committee agrees that a final solution must be reached in the future. The solution to this problem revolves around space usage and interference with other activities as well as costs. This Committee is not unmindful of the need to improve this facility.

We have pointed out the need for outdoor areas in our athletic program. There is a similar need for increased indoor areas. Whether we can overcome the scheduling problems to allow for equitable usage of the facilities at convenient times is still unanswered. Some of the alternatives mentioned for outdoor facilities may prove helpful for indoor facilities as well.

In summary we submit this report of our stewardship of your schools. This Committee is constantly evaluating the pupils, personnel, programs and facilities. Overall we find a quality education which previous Committees and townspeople have provided. From our observation and reports from the citizens, the schools are providing the type of education that the majority of citizens want for their children.

We are not unmindful of the fact that some have found things needing adjustment or correction. It is the duty of the Committee and its responsibility to the residents to investigate these matters. We have done so. Wherever possible corrections have been made.

Respectfully submitted,

PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Eida V. Jervey, Chairman
Zillah M. Buzzell
Rhonda Osborne
Barbara M. Wells
William P. Bannister
Robert T. Smart
Betty G. Conway
Paul F. Lynn
Richard T. Sciacca

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOL STAFF FOR 1976-1977

PENTUCKET REGIONAL JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Position	Name	Training	Total Years at Pentucket
Principal High School	Alexander S. Johnston	B.S. Springfield College 1949 M.S. University of Mass. 1957	7
Assistant Principal	Bertram D. Fecteau	M.Ed. Boston University 1955	12
Principal Junior High	Francis J. Ferreira	M.Ed. Salem State College 1964	17
Assistant Principal	William H. Whiting	M.Ed. Northeastern University 1961	17
Guidance Director	Robert R. Fanning	M.Ed. Salem State College 1964	13
Guidance	Kenneth B. Wood	M.Ed. Salem State College 1964	15
Guidance	Dorothy M. Mesle	M.Ed. Salem State College 1964	13
Guidance	Beryl Bagni	B.S. University of Mass. 1948	7
Guidance	John J. O'Wril	B.Ed. Plymouth State College 1963	10
Work Study	Frank J. Orlando	B.A. Salem State College 1970	7
Girls' Phys. Ed.	Laura J. Carley	B.S. Bridgewater State College 1967	10
Girls' Phys. Ed.	Nancy L. Hurld	B.A. Lea College, Minnesota 1972	4
Girls' Phys. Ed.	Marilyn L. Peacock	B.Ed. Plymouth State College 1965	6
Boys' Phys. Ed. Director	Thomas J. Flaherty	M.A.T. Brown University 1961	14
Boys' Phys. Ed.	Raymond E. Stickney	B.Ed. Plymouth State College 1964	13
Boys' Phys. Ed.	Paul B. Hughes	B.S. Northern Michigan Univ. 1972	1
English Dept. Head H.S.	Ronald L. Fenerty	M.Ed. University of N.H. 1969	16
English	Stephen Voltero	B.S. Merrimack College 1962	13
English	Helen M. McKittrick	A.B. Marymount College 1968 M.A. Wesleyan University 1973	8
English	Karen A. Wheeler	A.B. Simmons College 1967	7
English	Mary K. Gaffney	B.S. Boston College 1963	6
English	Katalin M. Wintchell	A.B. Smith College 1974	2
English Dept. Head Jr.H.	Albert E. Belanger	B.S. Salem State College 1961 M.A.T. Salem State College 1974	11
English	Janice A. Fowler	B.S. Northeastern University 1967	10
English	William J. Martin	B.S. Northeastern University 1966	11
English	Lawrence W. Faye	B.A. Merrimack College 1970	5

English	Jeffrey L. Hogan	B.A. University of N.H. 1969 M.A. University of N.H. 1971	6
English	Mary E. Parry	B.S. Salem State College 1960	7
English	Antonio J. Marino, Jr.	B.A. Westfield State College 1966 M.Ed. Salem State College 1974	4
English	Dorothy A. Rostosky	B.S. Lyndon Teachers College 1963	10
Reading	William B. Normand	M.Ed. Salem State College 1966	7
Reading	H. June Denault	B.S. Salem State College 1970	7
Reading	Kathleen Owens	B.A. Emmanuel College 1962	8
Reading	Marijane V. Natalie	B.S. Boston College 1965 M.Ed. Salem State College 1973	5
Reading	Catherine L. Dower	B.A. Salem State College 1970	6
Language Dept. Head	Richard H. Olson	B.A. St. Lawrence University 1966 M.A. Middlebury College 1967	7
Latin, English	Richard L. Canepa	B.A. Brown University 1962 M.Ed. Salem State College 1967	13
French	Roger Roy	B.A. Marist College 1964	12
French	John E. Durant	A.B. St. Anselm's College 1963	9
Spanish	Hazel W. Owen	A.B. Boston University 1941	14
German (Part-time)	Inge M. Burger	B.A. University of N.H. 1968 M.A. University of N.H. 1970	Began 9/1/76
French-Spanish (Part-time)	Regina B. Moss	B.A. Harpor College, New York 1972 M.Ed. Boston State College 1974	Began 9/1/76
Phys. Science Dept. Hd. H.S.	Robert F. Knights	M.Ed. Harvard University	19
Biological Science Dept. Head H.S.	Melvin H. Pollack	B.S. Boston University 1958 M.Ed. Boston University 1963	19
Science	Joseph J. Derro, Jr.	B.S. North Carolina State 1954	19
Science	Dudley W. Baldwin	B.S. Mass. College of Pharmacy 1957 M.S. Worcester Polytechnic Institute	13
Science	Jeffrey W. Joy	B.A. University of Rhode Island 1976	Began 9/1/76
Science Dept. Head Jr. H.	Robert E. Anton	B.S. University of Mass. 1957 M.S. Boston College 1974	12
Science	James Connor	M.Ed. Boston Universtiy 1971	12
Science	Mildred E. Kelley	M.Ed. University of Maine 1971	9.5

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOL STAFF (Continued)

Position	Name	Training	Total years at Pentucket
Science	Edward W. Monroe	B.S. Salem State College 1967	8
Science	Stephen H. Meline	A.B. Boston University 1970 M.S. Boston College 1974	7
Science	Harold W. Hutchins	B.A. University of N.H. 1968	6.5
Science	Walter D. Clark	B.S. Texas A. & M. University 1964	7
Social Studies Dept. Head Sr. H.S.	Joseph Sherry	M.Ed. Salem State College 1967	14
Social Studies	Herman T. Diehl, Jr.	B.S. University of Maine 1961	9
Social Studies	Marilyn Hershfield	M.A. Boston University 1946	10
Social Studies	Gerry J. Hull	A.B. University of Mass. 1965 M.A. Salem State College 1971	12
Social Studies	Stephen E. Denihan	A.B. Merrimack College 1963	8
Social Studies Dept. Head Jr. H.S.	Minas Dakos	M.Ed. Salem State College 1969	14
Social Studies	Robert P. Ruszkowski	B.S. Salem State Teachers' College 1965	12
Social Studies	David G. Buckley	B.A. Gordon College 1963	11
Social Studies	George P. Michaleas	B.S. Salem State College 1966	10
Social Studies	David E. Morse	B.S. Springfield College 1968	9
Social Studies (Part-time)	Jonathon L. Dennis	B.A. University of Maine 1976	Began 9/1/76
Social Studies	Wayne C. Sylvester	B.A. Bridgewater State 1969 M.S. Universtiy of Wisconsin 1971	6
Social Studies	Richard W. Dower	A.B. State College at Westfield 1970	4
Math Dept. Head, H.S.	Arnold G. Zins	B.A. Amherst College 1954	18
Mathematics	David D. Moore	M.S. Clarkson College 1970	10
Mathematics	Nancy A. Allison	B.Ed. Bridgewater State 1964 M.S. Clarkson University 1973	9
Mathematics	Dana B. Allison	B.A. Salem State College 1970	6
Mathematics	Nelda I. Denihan	B.S. Salem State College 1970	7
Math Dept. Head, Jr.H.	Raymond L. MacNeil	M.Ed. Salem State College 1967	15
Mathematics	Alan L. Mason	B.S. Salem State College 1965	10
Mathematics	David H. Bickum	M.Ed. Western Conn. State College 1969	8
Mathematics	Janice M. Hegan	B.A. Salem State College 1970	7
Mathematics	George J. DeLawrence	B.S. Salem State College 1958	9

Mathematics	Joyce E. Stoehr	B.Ed. Plymouth State College 1968	9
Mathematics	Dianne P. Freije	B.S. Salem State College 1972	5
Math/Biology	Leila R. Gilbert	B.A. Salem State College 1976	Began 9/1/76
Business Dept. Head	John D. Ricker	B.E. Plymouth State College 1965	9
Business	William T. Loughlin	B.B.S. New Hampshire College 1966	10
Business	Donna Lynch	B.S. Salem State College 1969	8
Business	Kathleen M. Flanigan	B.S. Salem State College 1970	7
Industrial Arts, Dept. Head Mechanical Drawing, H.S.	Donald L. Pinciaro	B.S. Fitchburg State College 1964 M.Ed. Fitchburg State College 1974	13
Industrial Arts - Woodworking	James D. Schultz	B.S. Fitchburg State College 1961	16
Industrial Arts	Dennis C. Willis	B.A. Framingham State College 1975	Began 9/1/76
Industrial Arts, Dept. Head Jr. H.	Michael A. Babin	B.Ed. Keene Teachers College 1965 M.Ed. Fitchburg State College 1973	9
Industrial Arts	Daniel T. McCarthy	B.S. Fitchburg State College 1969	8
Industrial Arts	Lawrence W. Cochrane, Jr.	B.S. Worcester Polytechnic Inst. 1960	3
Home Economics	Jean H. Lowe	B.S. Framingham State College 1969	8
Home Economics	Julia M. Sullivan	B.S. Framingham State College 1975	2
Home Economics	Gail T. Snell	B.S. University of Main at Framington 1960	3
Home Economics	Ann Marie Murphy	B.S. Misericordia College, Pa. 1975	Began 9/1/76
Vocal Music	Frank T. Esile	M. Lowell State College 1970	14
Music and Band	Robert W. Howard	B.S. Lowell State College 1962	11
Vocal Music	Leon E. Renaud	B.S. Music Ed. Lowell State College 1962	11
Music-Instrumental & Vocal	Ralph Lambert	B.A. State College at Lowell 1971	3
Art Dept. Head	Nancy A. Norton	M.A.T. Assumption College 1962	11
Art	Peter Bodge	B.A. University of N.H. 1960	4
Art	Mary Ann Varoski	B.F.A. Nathaniel Hawthorne College 1970	4
Art/Home Economics	Susan M. Dougherty	B.A. Mich. State Universtiy 1967	3.5
Art	Deborah R. Swindlehurst	B.F.A. University of Michigan 1969	Began 9/1/76
Librarian - Sr. H.S.	Ruth N. Parker	A.B. Coker College 1942	19
Librarian - Jr. H.S.	Sheila M. Callahan	B.A. Lowell State College 1971	5
Adjustment Counselor	Joseph L. D'Agata	B.S. Northeastern University 1966 M.Ed. Northeastern University 1973	Began 9/1/76
.Teacher of Pupils with Moderate Handicaps	Susan Foster	B.A. University of Mass. 1973	Leave of Absence
T.P.M.H.	Richard D. Crocker	B.A. University of Mass. 1967	Began 9/1/76

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOL STAFF (Continued)

Position	Name	Training	Total Years at Pentucket
T.P.M.H.	Barbara E. Voigt	B.A. University of Colorado 1972 M.Ed. Boston College 1974	1.5
Teacher of Special Needs	Marianne Bob	B.A. Brooklyn College 1976	Began 12/13/76
Speech Therapy (Part-time)	Maureen E. Carne	B.S. Emerson College 1970 M.Ed. Northeastern University 1971	1.8

PENTUCKET REGIONAL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES 1976 MERRIMAC

Batchelder, Stephen
Biggart, Maureen
Boyer, Ricky
Buzzell, Michael
Chalifour, Doreen
Clar, Debora
Cogswell, Brenda
Comins, Jane
Cote, Kim
Curry, Jane
Denault, Denise
Deveikis, Lori
Dionne, Brenda (Perkins)
Dunn, Alan
Dustin, Alan
Faxon, Paul
Flynn, Susan
Girroir, Scott
Grant, Gayle
Griffiths, John
Gynan, Mary
Hardy, Bonnie
Hart, Andrea
Heaton, Diana
Keiser, Christine
Kimball, Susan
Lane, Walter
Lavalley, Timothy
Lord, Stephen
McKenna, Thomas
MacLeod, Margaret
Montigny, Donald
Noble, Anna
Noel, Philip
Poor, Karlene
Potter, Carol
Powers Timothy
Randall, Bruce
Randall, Marla
Randall, Pamela
Richardson, Robert
Rousseau, Carol
Sampson, Alfred
Sandquist, Dawn
Schive, Kimberly
Sharkey, Cindy
Shorey, Timothy
Spencer, Linda
Spinney, Robert
Stepanian, James
Stone, Bonnie
Sutherland, Kathleen
Sweet, Kenneth
Torrey, Deborah
Turner, Clayton
Villeneuve, Brian
Weeks, Keith
Weeks, Kim
Wendt, Michael
Whitcomb, Wayne
Zinck, John

1976-1977
SCHOOL CALENDAR
PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL

Approved 5/5/76

1976		Pentucket
September		
7	Tuesday	Orientation: Teachers
8	Wednesday	School opens for Pupils
October		
11	Monday	Holiday - no school - Columbus Day
November		
10	Wednesday	Ends 1st quarter - 45 days
11	Thursday	Holiday - no school - Veterans Day
12	Friday	Schools closed - Teachers In-Service 7-12
24	Wednesday	School Close at noon for Thanksgiving Holiday
29	Monday	Schools open
December		
23	Thursday	Schools close end-of-day for the Christmas holidays
1977		
January		
3	Monday	Schools open
26	Wednesday	Ends 1st Half - 45 days
February		
21	Monday	Schools closed for Winter vacation
28	Monday	Schools open
April		
8	Friday	Schools closed — Good Friday Ends 3rd quarter — 47 days
25	Monday	Schools open
May		
30	Monday	Schools closed — Memorial Day Observance
June		
3	Friday	Last day for Seniors
4	Saturday	Graduation — 4:00 P.M.
14,15,16		Final Exams
17	Friday	180th day. Last day of school if no days were canceled.
23	Thursday	June 20, 21, 22, 23 are make-up days

184 days

PENTUCKET REGIONAL DISTRICT
1978 FY BUDGET

	Appropriated 1976	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
1000 SERIES ADMINISTRATION			
1100 SCHOOL COMMITTEE			
311 Salaries, Professional	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,100.00$	5,564.00
314 Contracted Services	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,300.00
315 Supplies & Materials	1,150.00	700.00	700.00
316 Other Expenses	4,450.00	950.00	1,150.00
1200 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE			
311 Salaries, Professional	38,000.00	38,600.00	38,700.00
312 Salaries, Office	23,220.00	22,600.00	23,974.00
314 Contracted Services	700.00	700.00	1,500.00
315 Supplies & Materials	3,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
316 Other Expenses	1,400.00	1,540.00	1,540.00
2000 SERIES INSTRUCTION			
2100 SUPERVISION			
311 Salaries, Professional	27,590.00	24,000.00	23,826.00
315 Supplies & Materials: Sr. H.	2,100.00	None	300.00
Jr. H.	475.00	550.00	750.00
2200 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE			
311 Administration Salaries	83,499.00	87,600.00	92,858.00
312 Office Clerical Salaries	28,419.00	29,141.00	32,977.00
314 Contracted Services	10,600.00	10,050.00	8,786.00
315 Supplies & Materials: Sr. H.	5,600.00	5,950.00	5,450.00
Jr. H.	2,000.00	2,090.00	2,875.00
316 Other Expenses: Sr. H.	1,465.00	1,470.00	1,590.00
Jr. H.	825.00	850.00	950.00
2300 TEACHING			
311 Salaries, Professional	1,228,384,.00	1,281,902.00	1,366,814.00
Teaching, Substitutes	20,000.00	26,000.00	26,000.00
Teaching Tuition Reimbursement	6,000.00	6,000.00	8,000.00
312 Salaries, Non-Professional	28,586.00	29,867.00	31,065.00
314 Contracted Services: Sr. H.	2,925.00	4,065.00	4,090.00
Jr. H.	1,575.00	2,138.00	1,848.00
361 Summer Activity Salaries	100.00	420.00	350.00
2300 TEACHING			
315 Supplies & Materials	70,000.00	77,000.00	
General Supplies Sr. H.			14,500.00
Jr. H.			15,500.00
Specific Supplies Sr. H.			29,580.00
Jr. H.			29,580.00
316 Travel & Dues: Sr. H.	2,855.00	3,305.00	
Sr. H.			2,000.00
Jr. H.			1,880.00

	Appropriated 1976	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
2400 TEXTBOOKS & WORKBOOKS:	26,083.00	30,887.00	
Sr. H.			21,985.00
Jr. H.			13,010.00
2500 LIBRARY/INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA			
311 Salaries, Professional	25,115.00	26,298.00	28,783.00
312 Salaries, Non-Professional	12,744.00	12,744.00	13,800.00
314 Contracted Services: Sr. H.	300.00	200.00	200.00
Jr. H.	75.00	75.00	85.00
315 Supplies & Materials: Sr. H.	3,500.00	3,900.00	3,900.00
Jr. H.	1,300.00	1,475.00	1,550.00
316 Other Expenses	258.00	378.00	388.00
2600 AUDIO VISUAL			
315 Supplies & Materials	17,000.00	20,000.00	
Sr. H.			15,800.00
Jr. H.			4,200.00
2700 GUIDANCE			
311 Salaries, Professional	87,162.00	90,339.00	98,256.00
312 Salaries, Secretaries	12,782.00	12,772.00	13,555.00
314 Contracted Services	700.00	700.00	None
315 Supplies & Materials	3,097.00	3,138.00	
Sr. H.			2,737.00
Jr. H.			483.00
316 Other Expenses	743.00	753.00	
Jr. H.			100.00

3000 SERIES OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES

3100 ATTENDANCE			
313 Salaries, Non-Professional	$ 700.00	$ 700	$ 700.00
3200 HEALTH SERVICES			
311 Salaries, Professional	18,770.00	19,600.00	20,000.00
315 Supplies & Materials	450.00	500.00	
Sr. H.			300.00
Jr. H.			200.00
316 Other Expenses	100.00	100.00	
Sr. H.			50.00
Jr. H.			50.00
3310 OPERATION OF SCHOOL BUSES			
313 Salaries, Non-Professional	600.00	600.00	600.00
3370 TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTED SERVICES	161,705.00	195,174.00	215,676.00
3400 FOOD SERVICES			
313 Salaries, Non-Professional	11,500.00	12,000.00	12,450.00

	Appropriated 1976	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
3510 ATHLETICS			
311 Salaries, Professional: Coaching	25,444.00	27,842.00	40,000.00
314 Contracted Services, Team Tran.	6,925.00	7,320.00	7,875.00
314 Contracted Services, Recondition	7,500.00	7,200.00	7,500.00
315 Supplies & Materials	10,650.00	10,970.00	11,501.00
316 Other Expenses	475.00	490.00	715.00
316.1 Athletic Revolving Fund	1,000.00	None	1,850.00
3520 OTHER STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES			
311 Salaries, Professional	3,632.00	3,632.00	4,500.00
314 Contracted Services	1,950.00	2,000.00	2,187.00
315 Supplies & Materials	150.00	820.00	670.00
4000 SERIES OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF PLANT			
4110 CUSTODIAL SERVICES			
313 Salaries Non-Profession	107,828.00	112,141.00	115,350.00
315 Supplies & Materials: Sr. H.	4,500.00	5,000.00	5,500.00
Jr. H.	4,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
4120 HEAT OF BUILDINGS	59,500.00	62,000.00	62,000.00
4130 UTILITY SERVICES	44,800.00	51,400.00	56,540.00
4210 MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS			
313 Salaries, Non-Professional	7,480.00	7,660.00	8,096.00
314 Contracted Services	10,400.00	10,000.00	11,500.00
315 Supplies & Materials	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
4220 MAINTENANCE OF BUILDERS			
313 Salaries, Non-Professional	12,250.00	12,750.00	13,250.00
314 Contracted Services	22,990.00	25,000.00	27,500.00
315 Supplies & Materials: Sr. H.	3,500.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Jr. H.	3,500.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
316 Other Expenses	580.00	580.00	640.00
4230 MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT			
314 Contracted Services: Sr. H.	8,000.00	9,325.00	9,650.00
Jr. H.	4,000.00	4,175.00	4,175.00
315 Supplies & Materials	1,000.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5000 SERIES FIXED CHARGES			
5100 316 Employment Retirement	30,000.00	44,752.00	41,000.00
5200 316 Insurance Program	40,000.00	62,101.00	70,000.00
5400 317 Debt Service	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,000.00
7000 SERIES ACQUISITION OF FIXED ASSETS			
7200 ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENTOF BUILD-INGS			
318 Renovation: Art and Music Rooms			

	Appropriated 1976	Appropriated 1977	Requested 1978
7300 ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT			
318 Library Books: Sr. H.	4,680.00	4,900.00	5,320.00
Equipment: Sr. H.	15,105.00	15,105.00	14,955.00
318 Library Books: Jr. H.	3,848.00	4,279.00	4,279.00
Equipment: Jr. H.	4,855.00	4,855.00	5,787.00
7400 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT	18,000.00		
Senior High		10,552.00	22,024.00
Junior High		7,015.00	8,904.00

8000 SERIES DEBT SERVICE AND RETIREMENT

8100 317 DEBT RETIREMENT (Principal, Long Term)	195,000.00	195,000.00	145,000.00
8200 317 DEBT SERVICE (Interest, Long Term)	52,112.50	44,542.50	36,972.50
Sub-Total	$2,715,456.50	$2,881,257.50	$3,023,058.50

SCHEDULE B

2300B INSTRUCTIONAL			
311B Instruction, Salaries	28,000.00	39,362.00	46,000.00
314B Contracted Services	4,750.00	5,000.00	7,000.00
315B Supplies & Materials	500.00	1,500.00	2,500.00
316B Other Expenses	165.00	200.00	1,050.00
2400B TEXTBOOKS		0	0
	2,500.00		
3200B HEALTH SERVICES			
314B Contracted Services	500.00	500.00	500.00
3370B TRANSPORTATION			
314B Contracted Services	15,000.00	20,000.00	35,000.00
7300B ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT	None	1,500.00	3,500.00
9000B OTHER SCHOOL PROGRAMS			
314 - 100 Other Mass Public Schools 34	6,000.00	2,800.00	7,500.00
200 Other Districts - Other States	12,000.00	7,000.00	None
300 Payments to Non-Public Schools	7,500.00	30,000.00	35,000.00
Sub-Total	74,415.00	107.862.00	140,550.00

PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
1978 BUDGET
Voted 2-22-77

COST DISTRIBUTION

Student Enrollments, by Towns and Percentage of Enrollment

	Oct. 1, 1976		1977 % of Total	1978 % of Total
Groveland	701	=	46.6001%	45.8770%
Merrimac	494	=	32.2520%	32.3298%
West Newbury	333	=	21.1479%	21.7932%
	1528		100.0000%	100.0000%

Budget Requests for 1978	$3,163,608.50
Less: All categories	$1,074,956.50
Total to be raised	$2,088,652.00

Assessments to Towns, based on Agreement

	1977	1978
Groveland's Share	$ 883,319.00	$ 958,210.88
Merrimac's Share	611,346.00	675,257.01
West Newbury's Share	400,865.00	455,184.11
	$1,895,530.00	$2,088,652.00

WARRANT
for
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ESSEX, ss.

To, Donald J. Montigny, one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the legal voters of the Town of MERRIMAC to meet in RED OAK SCHOOL in Merrimac on

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1976

at 8:00 o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles, namely:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41, G.L.'s as amended: Moderator, Town Clerk, Three Selectmen, Three Assessors, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Tree Warden, Three Commissioners of Municipal Light, Three Water Commissioners, and raise and appropriate sums of money therefore, and to determine sums of money to be raised to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1976 and make appropriations for the same said sums of money so raised and appropriated to be expended for specific purposes to be voted. (Voted)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 1976, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17. (Voted)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to use a sum of money from available balances and from "FREE CASH" in the treasury toward the reduction of the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1976; or take any action relative thereto. ($170,000 Voted)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate, or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for construction, reconstruction, and resurfacing of local streets; or take any action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for the maintenance of road machinery to keep road machinery in operation; or take any action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for Chapter 765 Road Construction; or take any action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the sale of cemetery lots, such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the "Care, Improvement and Embellishment" of said cemeteries, according to Section 14, and Section 25 of Chapter 114, G.L.'s; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Electric Light Operating balance, said money to be used by the Assessors with the estimated receipts to fix the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1976; or take any other action relative thereto. ($35,000 transferred — Voted)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer of dog license fees collected during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1976, to the Merrimac Public Library as provided in Chapter 140, Section 172 of the G.L.'s or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to accept benefits provided under Chapter 760 Acts of 1960 entitled "An act providing State aid for free public libraries"; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by Assessors to perform duties relating to equalization or revaluation of the Town; to authorize the Assessors to hire themselves at the rate of Four ($4.00) Dollars per hour and to hire such other necessary assistance as the Assessors may deem necessary or convenient; or take any other action relative thereto. ($4,000 Voted)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Highway Machinery Revolving Account to Surplus Revenue; or take any other action relative thereto. ($2,447.67 Voted)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the action of the Town Meeting under Article 1. of the Special Town Meeting on October 20, 1975; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to designate River Road as a Scenic Road under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 15c; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Committee to Study the Feasibility of Changing Town Government; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Voted as amended)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Committee to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Department of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Voted as amended)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Revenue Sharing Funds for the payment of a new fire truck which the 1975 Annual Town Meeting voted to purchase; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Voted to transfer $40,000 from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Revenue Sharing Funds a sum of money to be expended by the Brox Building Renovation Committee for the purpose of any other repair, remodeling or renovation deemed necessary or desirable in the opinion of the Brox Building Renovation Committee to enable the Police Department to move into the Brox Building; or take any other action relative thereto. ($5,000 voted from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by the Selectmen for the purchase of a Police Cruiser and to authorize the Selectmen to trade in any present Police Cruiser towards the cost of said new Cruiser; or take any other action relative thereto.

($4,900 Voted from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from Revenue Sharing Funds a sum of money to be expended by the Police Department for equipment for the new Police Department headquarters; or take any other action relative thereto.

($1,000 from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Revenue Sharing Funds a sum of money for the Council on Aging; or take any other action relative thereto.

($9,887 from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money to be expended by the Board of Selectmen to subsidize the cost of providing ambulance service to the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto. ($3,500 Voted)

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for a new Water Department Truck; or take any other action relative thereto. ($2,000 Voted)

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate sum of money to renovate the Town Offices; or take any other action relative thereto. ($2,000 Voted)

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Planning Board to be used to produce a

current Master Plan for the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted to trans $1,613 Rev Shr. $5,387 Sur Rev.)

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to 1. Raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by the School Committee for the purpose of re-roofing the Helen R. Donaghue School roof 2. The said re-roofing includes the following: (a) any re-roofing deemed necessary or desirable in the opinion of the School Committee 3. That the School Committee be authorized to enter into any contracts or do anything which may be necessary or convenient in carrying out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto. ($13,000 Stab. Fund)

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Conservation Fund according to the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5(51); or take any other action relative thereto. (Not Carried)

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be paid to the Haverhill Newburyport Mental Health and Retardation Area Board for the purpose of rendering mental health and mental retardation services to residents of the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto. ($4,202 Voted)

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article IV, Section 10 of the Town By-Laws to include Martin Luther King Day; or take any other action relative thereto. (Not Carried)

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town By-Laws by adding the following: Whenever any sidewalk or footway, or any part thereof, as designated by the Selectmen, has become encumbered with snow, and after snow has ceased to fall thereon, the Town of Merrimac shall within six hours, remove or cause the snow to be removed therefrom; provided, however, that the requirements of this section shall not be in force between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.; or take any other action relative thereto. (Not Carried)

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Merrimac by deleting Paragraphs 1 and 3b of Section IV A and substituting in place thereof the following:
SECTION IV A. SUBURBAN — RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT USES
1. Not more than a one (1) family dwelling; and 3b The taking of not more than two (2) lodgers; or take any other action relative thereto. (Tabled)

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to acquire by purchase eminent domain or otherwise, an easement and right-of-way on land of Omni Realty, Inc., Lottie D. Zinck, and Francis J. and Edna Matthews being shown on plan entitled "Plan of Land in Merrimac, Mass. showing proposed drainage easements from owners as shown to the Town of Merrimac, Mass. April 1, 1976 1" = 40' Merrimac Engineer-

ing Services, 211 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover, Mass., 01860" for the purpose of a drainage easement, and appropriate a sum of money to defray the cost thereof; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to continue the Museum in the Town Hall Auditorium; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted as amended)

And you are hereby required to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in three (3) public places in said Town of Merrimac, at least seven (7) days before said time of meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 19th day of April, 1976.

GEORGE P. STEVENS
NANCY C. MacGREGOR
H. FRANCIS DRENTH
Board of Selectmen

WARRANT

for

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1976

ESSEX ss.

To Donald J. Montigny, one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the legal voters on the Town of Merrimac to meet in RED OAK SCHOOL in Merrimac on:

MONDAY OCTOBER 25, 1976

at 8:00 o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles, namely:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay engineering expenses required to obtain easements to relieve flooding at Lake Attitash; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $611.00)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to cover increased costs for printing the Town Report; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $126.85)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to Town Hall Maintenance to cover incurred expenses; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $211.27)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to Dog Officer Expenses to cover incurred expenses; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $32.00

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to Dump Maintenance Salary to cover salary due; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $32.00)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money back into General Revenue Sharing Funds; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $1,375.85

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be used to purchase signs and furnishings for the Town Office; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $1,375.85)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money back into the General Revenue Sharing Fund; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $476.00)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay bill owed to the Haverhill Gazette by the Planning Board; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $93.98)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to defray the cost of hiring two full-time patrolmen for the Police Department until June 30, 1977; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted as amended)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FREE CASH a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be used to purchase a new fire truck; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $19,000.00)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authority to borrow $59,000 as stated in Article 16 of the May 5, 1975 Annual Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to 1. Transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by the Brox Building Renovation Committee for the purpose of completing the heating system and the emergency generator and completing the Squad Room for the Police Department and 2. That the Brox Building Renovation Committee be authorized to enter into any contracts or to do anything which may be necessary or convenient in carrying out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to increase the salary account of the Dog Officer; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $800.00)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Ambulance Account; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $1,500)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay for a new heating system in the Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto. (Tabled)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay for a professional negotiator to conduct collective bargaining for the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $3,000 from Revenue Sharing)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds to the Playground Commission to replace and extend water lines on the Merrimac Playground; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $1,500)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay for thirty (30) School Bus Stop Signs; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted $735.00)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to empower and encourage the Merrimac Board of Selectmen to employ a qualified and professional person, part or full-time, to hold the position of Executive Planner; or take any other action relative thereto. (Tabled)

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to 1. authorize its Selectmen to submit an application for the construction, renovation, repair or other improvements of local public works projects under the Public Works Employment Act of 1976 and 2. to expend any monies received in accordance with said application; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following resolution: ''Resolved that in recognition of the work of Parker McLaren in obtaining the former Boston and Main Railroad right-of-way for the Town of Merrimac, to be preserved as a woodland trail for the benefit and enjoyment of the Town's citizens, and in commemoration of the life and untimely death of his son, symbolic of the youth of Merrimac and future generations for which this open space is preserved, this path shall be named the ''Jay McLaren Memorial Trail''; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town By-Laws by adding to Article VI, Section 13 to read as follows: ''No person shall operate a motor cross vehicle between the hours of 8:00 P.M. and 9:00 A.M.''; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 40, Section 8D of the General Laws, inserted by Chapter 697 of the Acts of 1963, relative to the establishment, powers and duties of a Historical Commission in cities and towns; or take any other action relative thereto. (Tabled)

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the State Conservation Services Grant Account to the Merrimac Conservation Fund; or take any other action relative thereto. (Voted)

And you are hereby required to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in three (3) public places in said Town of Merrimac, at least fourteen (14) days before said time of meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 8th day of October, 1976.

NANCY C. MacGREGOR
GEORGE A. WATERHOUSE
GEORGE P. STEVENS
Board of Selectmen

WARRANT
for
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ESSEX, ss.

To, Donald J. Montigny, one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the legal voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in RED OAK SCHOOL in Merrimac on

MONDAY, MAY 2, 1977

at 8:00 o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles, namely:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41, G. L's. as amended: Moderator, Town Clerk, Three Selectmen, Three Assessors, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Tree Warden, Three Commissioners of Municipal Light, Three Water Commissioners, and raise and appropriate sums of money therefore, and to determine sums of money to be raised to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1977 and make appropriations for the same said sums of money so raised and appropriated to be expended for specific purposes to be voted.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 1977, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to use a sum of money from available balances and from "FREE CASH" in the treasury toward the reduction of the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1977; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to rise and give thanks to the Centennial Committee for their fine work during 1976; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Assessors with the estimated receipts to fix the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1977; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file application under Section 466 E, Title 33, of the United States Code for grants to be made by the United States to aid in defraying the costs of construction of the sewage treatment works, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to furnish such information and to take other such action as may be necessary to enable the Town to qualify for the grant; to agree that if such a grant is made, the Town will pay all of the remaining costs of the approved project over and above the amount of the grant; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for construction of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Turkey Hill Interceptor, Cobblers Brook Interceptor, Attitash Interceptor, and the Lateral Sewers tributary to the above Interceptors; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to acquire by purchases or by eminent domain or otherwise for the purpose of permanent and temporary easements and a wastewater facility, any land or any interest in land necessary in connection with the foregoing, and also to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for said purpose, determine how such sum shall be raised, whether from the current tax levy, from available funds, or by borrowing or otherwise; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to provide expense money for the Sewage Commissioners; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended for Street Lighting; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to pay for printing the Town By-Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to pay for the Town Report; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to pay for Town Hall heat; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended on Water in Town Buildings; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be

expended for engineering and consultant fees; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into an agreement with Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority to provide bus service to the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to eliminate from the ballot each year, beginning with the Annual Town Election, May 8, 1978, the Offices of "Trustee of Kimball Park" and "Surveyors of Lumber and Measurers of Wood and Bark" and make them positions to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 13 of the Town By-Laws by inserting Section 6 to read as follows: "Section 6. Any brush involved in a land clearing operation, either single house lot or sub-division, must be chipped before being deposited at the Town Land Fill Area. Small quantities of brush gathered from general yard cleaning may be deposited in the Land Fill Area without first being chipped. Stumps and logs will be accepted as is."; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19.To see if the Town will vote to amend Article III Section I of the Town By-Laws to read: "The Moderator shall in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws (Terr. Ed.) Chapter 39 Section 16 at the Annual Town Meeting appoint a Finance Committee to consist of nine (9) citizens of the Town."; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to convey to the Governor and it's elected State Representatives and Senators it's desire that there be no extension of Cumpulsory and Binding Arbitration beyond its termination date of June 30, 1977, so that final authority for determining local expenditures be returned to the Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds or borrow a sum of money for Road Construction and/or Improvements as defined in the 1977 Comprehensive Highway, Mass. Transit and Local Highway Aid Program Act; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to purchase an air compressor for the Highway Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to subsidize the cost of Ambulance Service to the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to

purchase six (6) Trash Receptacles for Merrimac Square; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to pay Dump Salary; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended for Dump Expense; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or to transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended for Special Police Officers; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended for installing a temporary Electric Meter in the Police Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 29 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the sale of Cemetery Lots, such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the "Care, Improvement and Embellishment" of said Cemeteries, according to Section 14 and Section 25 of Chapter 114 of the General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to transfer dog license fees collected during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1977, to the Merrimac Public Library as provided in Chapter 140, Section 172 of the General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to accept benefits provided under Chapter 760, Acts of 1960 entitled "An act providing State aid for free Public Libraries"; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by the Board of Assessors to perform duties and incur expenses relating to any equalization or revaluation of the Town; to authorize the Board of Assessors to hire themselves at the rate of Four ($4.00) Dollars per hour and to hire such other necessary assistance as the Board of Assessors may deem necessary or convenient; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to repair the roof and exterior of the Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to pay for Council on Aging; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money for the Haverhill/Newburyport Mental Health and Retardation Area Board; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to be expended for Civil Defense Expenses; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the replacement of eight (8) inch water main on Lancaster Court for the Water Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to repair drainage on Harriman Road.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to purchase equipment for treasurer's office

And you are hereby required to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in three (3) public places in said Town of Merrimac, at least seven (7) days before said time of meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of Meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 18th day of April, 1977.

Nancy C. MacGregor
George A. Waterhouse
George P. Stevens
Board of Selectmen

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